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Thursday January 18 1996

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# The Guardian

INTERNATIONAL

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NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

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Guardian 2 with European weather



OnLine

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Ken Livingstone on Arthur's breakaway

## Why Scargill has got it wrong

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Tories and CBI join argument over stakeholding

# Union blow to Labour's 'big idea'

Patrick Wintour, Chief Political Correspondent

LABOUR'S "big idea" for a stakeholder society faced its first serious challenge yesterday when a rift opened between the party and union leaders over the need for new laws enshrining workers' rights.

And the controversy widened when the employers' organisation, the Confederation of British Industry, weighed into the growing debate, seeking assurances that Labour's embrace of stakeholding did not require changes to company law.

The clash with the unions began when John Edmonds, the leader of the GMB general union, argued that a stakeholding economy required legal changes to give workers more rights, a claim swiftly denied by the Labour leadership.

Mr Edmonds said new laws were needed to cope with fears over job insecurity. "They ultimately need to be enshrined in law because we need to create some decent rights for people at work in Britain to line up with Europe."

He added: "People in Britain have fewer rights to information, they have less right to know what is going on in their company, they are more insecure at work and more easily sacked... some of



John Redwood: Stakeholding, 'this prospectus for ruin'

those problems have to be put right by legislation."

The party's City spokesman, Alistair Darling, swiftly headed off demands for legislation, saying Labour was only seeking to encourage cultural changes within companies.

"I do not accept that what is required to get the change of culture in the country, of getting management and workers working together, requires rules and regulations". He also denied that it required an increase in power for unions.

Despite the controversy, the Labour leadership remained confident of the

wisdom of launching its much interpreted stakeholding theme, but there were signs of unease that the slogan was becoming too narrowly associated with curbing shareholder power and handing greater rights to the unions in the workplace.

Tony Blair will seek to restore the theme's wider definition of social cohesion at a meeting in Derby tonight.

Leading the Tory attack on the idea of a stakeholder society yesterday, John Redwood criticised the Guardian's economics editor, Will Hutton, claiming he was "Labour's new organ grinder" and his book *The State We're In* was the "true source book on Stakeholding".

"New Labour" proposes a huge programme of over-government, higher taxes and constitutional upheaval."

More worrying for Labour, the director general of the CBI, Adair Turner, warned: "We are wary of new legislation. Most of what has to happen is for businesses, sometimes working with trade unions, to be clear about the training and motivation that they need to give to their people, to make sure they feel they have a real stake in the company. Some of the legislation you could bring forward in corporate governance need confuse managerial objectives."

Letters, page 8

Fumes are keynote of car centenary event



Wrapped in a coat, Angel Koyuntzi is led off by police after her strip PHOTOGRAPH CATERNS NEWS

## Godiva displays naked fury at cathedral service

Gary Younge

IN THE spirit of Lady Godiva, I'm here to mourn the death of my mother and the 17 million people killed directly by the motor car."

With these words, Angel Koyuntzi, aged 35, took off her fake fur coat in front of a 1,000-strong congregation in Coventry Cathedral to reveal her naked body covered only by slogans reading: "17 Million Dead - Forgive Us" and "Reforest the Earth - The Goddess is the Mother of the Nation."

Her actions brought the service to mark the centenary of the motor industry to a standstill for four minutes as police and security guards led her away, while she continued to protest against the motor car.

Ms Koyuntzi said: "I've been on demonstra-

tions and protests for years. My naked body is the last resort in trying to get my views across to people."

She now lives in a tent in Allercomb, Devon - site of a demonstration against a new bypass.

Shortly afterwards, an 1897 Coventry Daimler chugged down the central aisle - its fumes making everyone choke - to the strains of a Rolls-Royce band.

Subsequently came readings, including one by Prince Michael of Kent, hymns, blessings, and a performance by drama students, and then a Peugeot 106 Electric made its way down the aisle. Behind it walked bishops and other dignitaries, who emerged from the cathedral into the screaming of "angels".

who were all dressed in black. Inside, the Very Rev John Petty, provost of Coventry Cathedral, called on the congregation to ask God for forgiveness for "the greed which lays waste the earth."

She was arrested and cautioned under section two of the Ecclesiastical Courts Jurisdiction Act, 1960, and subsequently released.

Ms Koyuntzi's mother was run down by a car when she was a child. Ms Koyuntzi says she also has a two-year-old nephew with chronic asthma, and that these are the driving forces behind her activism.

"What more do you need to get involved?"

The cathedral service was strange from the start. The congregation had to walk past scores of protesters, including mothers of children who had been killed by reckless driverscars.

Leader comment, page 8; Pains Notes, G2 page 3

# Queen will not bail out duchess

Vivak Chaudhary

THE Duchess of York reported to have run up an overdraft of £1 million thanks to her lavish lifestyle, will not be bailed out by the Queen, Buckingham Palace said yesterday.

A spokeswoman, commenting on a financial crisis which has led to some reports that the duchess might be on the verge of bankruptcy, said: "The Queen has already made generous provisions to the Duchess of York but the management of her finances is her responsibility. The duchess's business interests are quite separate from her royal duties, and any difficulties resulting from them are her business. It is up to the Duchess of York and her financial advisers to find a solution and it's not a matter for the Queen."

The "generous provisions" are thought to refer to a £2 million settlement agreed by the Queen when Prince Andrew and the duchess separated in 1992. It was designed to help the couple's children, and around £1.4 million of the money is held in a trust fund.

The duchess has access to the interest, reported to be around £100,000 a year, but her income is outstripped by her lifestyle.

The Queen is also reported to have made other cash payments to help the duchess out, and palace sources claim she is running out of patience.

With a divorce between the Prince and Princess of Wales impending, it is also widely believed that the Queen will contribute to the £15 million settlement thought to be under discussion.

The duchess, who has not undertaken official royal duties since 1992 and receives no money from the Civil List, employs a large number of personal staff and pays £72,000 a year for her home near Windsor.

Her office refused to comment on the overdraft at



In the red

INCOME:

■ £15,000 per year personal allowance from Prince Andrew.

■ £100,000 from sale of interviews to Hello magazine.

■ £100,000 royalties for Budgie The Helicopter with US deal to come.

■ £10,000 school fees paid by Prince Andrew.

■ £100,000 (estimated) in interest from separation settlement.

Total: £325,000

EXPENDITURE:

■ £72,000 rent per year for Kingsbourne House.

■ £384,000 for staff.

■ £52,000 for parties and holidays. Last year she flew an estimated 205,000 miles.

■ £80,000 (estimated) on clothing, gifts, social events, etc.

TOTAL: £588,000

Excess of expenditure over income: £263,000

Coutts Bank, but the duchess told a national newspaper: "The truth is I am making cutbacks, huge ones. But the state of my financial accounts is not anybody else's business."

Since her separation from Prince Andrew, she has turned to page 2, column 7

Leader comment, page 8

# Russian PM threatens all-out Chechen war

David Hearst in Moscow, James Meek near Pervomayskaya and Chris Nuttall in Ankara

RUSSIA'S prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, threatened to launch an all-out military offensive to end separatist resistance in Chechnya, as the related hostage crises in Dagestan, Turkey and the breakaway republic itself showed no sign of abating.

By way of reply, Aslan Maskhadov, the senior Chechen military commander, said he was ready to take the war to Moscow's doorstep, with attacks on cities throughout Russia.

Mr Chernomyrdin's threat, came as Russian forces besieging Chechen rebels in Pervomayskaya, Dagestan, abandoned attempts to ground troops to free an estimated 75 hostages. Instead they commenced the systematic, long-range destruction of the village, using Grad missiles and heavy artillery.

Simultaneously, Turkish coastguard ships in the Black Sea continued to board a Russian ferry, the *Avrasya*, which was seized by heavily-armed Chechen sympathisers on Tuesday night in the Turkish port of Trabzon.

The ferry hijackers, holding hostage up to 250 civilians and crew, offered to release non-Russian passengers. But by nightfall no releases had

taken place and the ferry had passed the ports of Samsun and Sinop, apparently heading for Istanbul.

There were unconfirmed media reports that Turkish navy was preparing a rescue operation and would storm the ferry rather than allow it to reach Istanbul. But the ship's captain pleaded for restraint in a telephone interview. "Do nothing until we reach Istanbul, because it will be bloodshed. These guys are armed, please keep away," he said.

"The gang's leader, Mohammed Toçjan, told Turkish television that the ship had enough fuel to reach Istanbul and would arrive there by tomorrow. He said explosives had been attached to lorries and cars below decks and to the ship's fuel tanks.

"We've all got four kilos of explosives strapped to our chests," one hijacker said when contacted by cellular phone. "That's enough to blow up both us and the whole boat."

The gunmen renewed threats to execute the 185 Russians on board and to blow up the ship in the Bosphorus if their demands that Russia cease the attack on Pervomayskaya were not heeded.

Clearly exasperated by the escalating Chechen crisis, Mr Chernomyrdin told the Duma (parliament) in Moscow that it was now necessary "to continue disarming illegal armed units" in Chechnya.

His form of words - identical to those used in December 1994, when the first Russian conquest of Chechnya was ordered - appeared to pre-empt another large-scale offensive, observers said. More than 30,000 Chechens have died in the fighting that has ensued sporadically since then.

Mr Chernomyrdin's threat was matched by the rebels' senior military commander. "The most terrible moment of the war is coming when it may spread over the boundaries of Chechnya," Mr Maskhadov said. "I would not be surprised if soon one of our groups emerges somewhere in [the Russian towns of] Mordok, Vladikavkaz, Saratov, Moscow or Astrakhan."

In Pervomayskaya itself, Russian forces unleashed a ground-churning storm of indiscriminate fire on the village, without apparent regard for the hostages there.

General Alexander Mikhailov, spokesman for the Russian FSB security service, told journalists: "According to our information, [the Chechens] have already exterminated the majority of the hostages."

Because of this and other terrorist activity by Chechens and their sympathisers, it had been decided "to finish the operation... with massive fire", Gen Mikhailov said.

Chechen crisis, page 6

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Sketch

Grylls stake and silicone chips



Simon Hoggart

THE RADs and Industry questions are never too exciting, so my thoughts strayed to the names of the MPs who were in attendance. Paddy Tipping (Lab, Sherwood), for example, sounds like a pastime for politicians.

Or Dale Campbell-Savours (Lab, Workington), whose sole current interest is the decision by Campbell's Soups to close a factory in his constituency. Unfortunately, his name sounds like part of a TV commercial for the company.

Phillip Oppenheim, the under-secretary, tried to confuse "stake" and "stake". The idea of the stakeholder economy, what is it, if not regulation? When they were in power, we had a hamburger economy, because they had made mince-meat of industry, he said, serving up the processed cheese of dead metaphor in the stale bun of rhetoric.

First night

Final curtain's vintage revival

Robin Thorner

Just Between Ourselves Scarborough

IT IS ALL very sentimental. This is the last show in the existing Stephen Joseph Theatre-in-the-Round, a former grammar school where Alan Ayckbourn's company has improbably been based for the past 20 years.

So this old classroom has seen the world premieres of 20 or more plays by one of the world's most popular dramatists, as well as the birth of countless theatrical careers, and a sound, varied repertoire we have no right to expect in a seasonal town of this size. It has already become a place of pilgrimage for theatre-lovers as well as day trippers. Future generations will no doubt see heritage trails and the "Ayckbourn country" experience.

Firm directors give evidence on illicit arms deals with Iran

David Pallister

A DIRECTOR of the British Defence company BMARC yesterday told MPs investigating illicit arms sales to Iran that guns exported to Singapore were being shipped on to a secret customer.

haps more interesting, trend. Backbenchers continue frantically to suck up to ministers in the hope of getting a place in the final ministerial reshuffle before the next election.

Bob Dunn (C, Dartford) served up a greasball about our increasing exports to Japan. David Congdon (C, Croydon NE) claimed with apparent pride that Britain was now the world's seventh largest producer of silicone chips (not only a breast implant, but also a tasty snack).

Jacques Arnold (C, Gravesend), who is dug up by the whips every morning and for whom a stake through the heart would be a kindness, asked about the reduced cost of privatised fuel and so enabled the minister to gloat at length.

Robert Atkins... whoops, he lost his ministerial job last year, but it's never too late to try again. He did.

Simon David Evans, the boor from Welwyn who fancies himself as a lovable national character, bellowed in a voice which made the late Arthur Mullard sound like Julian Clary, "until this lot over there stop torikin' abatz stakes in Brit'ain and star' torikin' some common sense, the be'er it'll be for all of us."

Someone shouted an ironic "Answer, answer!", but Mr Evans is now no longer employed, merely tolerated, like a child who does not realise that the joke has begun to bore the grown-ups.

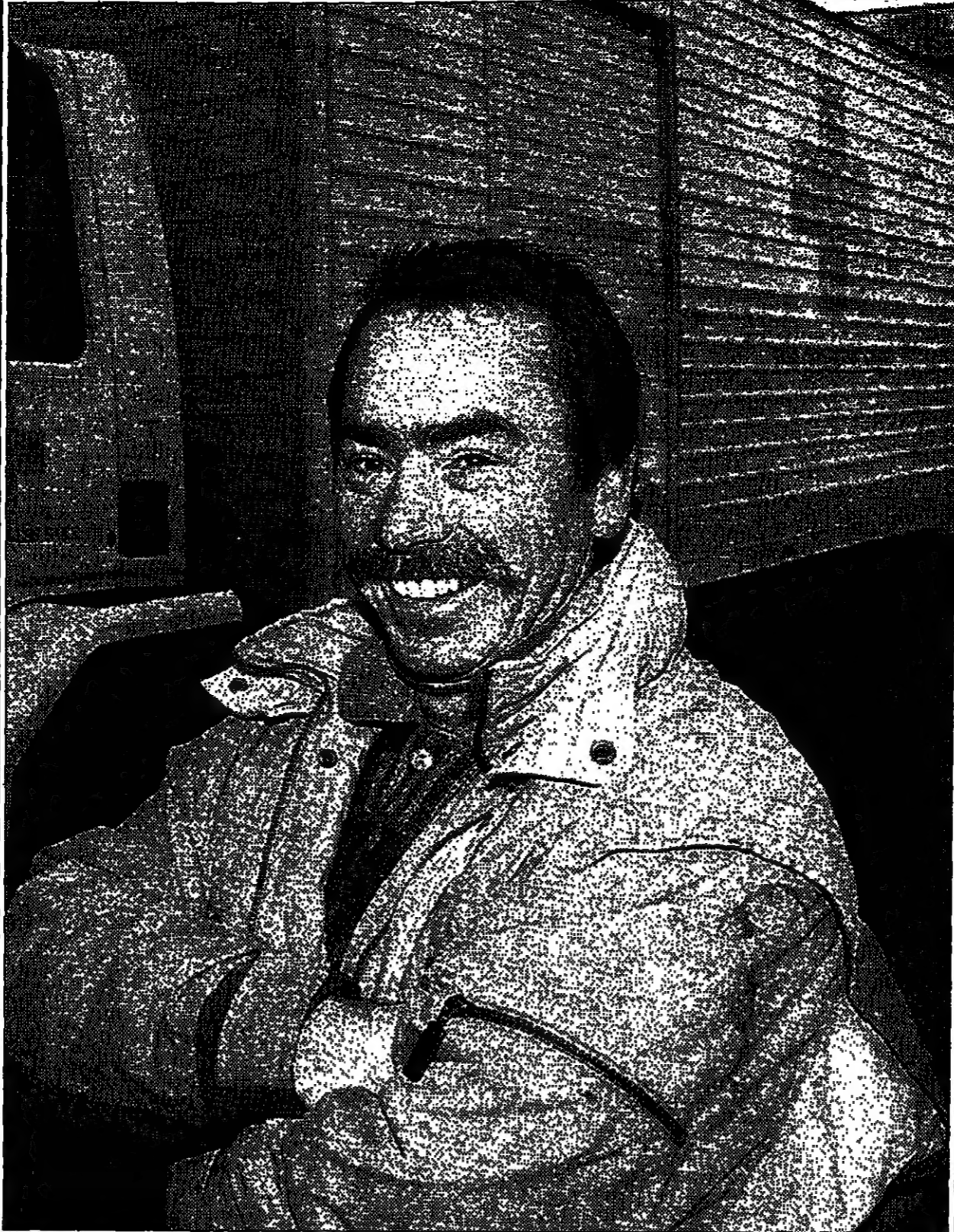
But the most curious sign of the way government confidence is disintegrating is the way in which ministers have started to brown-nose backbenchers.

Phillip Oppenheim offered Nicholas Budge "warm congratulations". He even discovered that Teresa Gorman had "made some fair points".

Most astonishing of all, Richard Page told Michael Grylls (C, Surrey NW) that his views were always listened to "with reverence and attention".

What on earth does that mean? Is Grylls threatening to defect to the Liberals? Does it merely mean that ministers cross themselves when Grylls bores into view?

A crucifix, a clove of garlic, or even stake to the heart might be simpler. "Gaberlunzie man" (Arch. Scots) a wandering beggar.



John Boast, being held in Romania on suspicion of smuggling a baby girl in Britain. PHOTOGRAPH: LANCASHIRE EVENING TELEGRAPH

Romanian baby 'hoiked around Britain in search of a family'

Sarah Bosoley and Chris Stephen in Bucharest

JOHN BOAST, the British man detained in Romania over allegations of smuggling a baby girl into Britain, was said yesterday to have "hoiked her around the country in his lorry" last summer looking for a family willing to give her a home.

Robert and Helen Dunn, who had brought a girl, now nearly three, out of Romania two years earlier, agreed to take the 15-month-old baby into their North Yorkshire home after being contacted by an intermediary. The hand-over took place at the Watford Gap service station on the M1, and the baby is now living in their home.

The Duns have applied to adopt both children. Although they were not unhappy about the care the baby was receiving, North Yorkshire social services department applied for a care order last August because of her ill-

legal entry. They were turned down in the High Court by Mrs Justice Bracewell, who ruled that the Duns, but not the children, could be identified.

Yesterday the Romanian authorities let it be known that they may ask for the return of the child, who was abandoned by her parents at the Oradea children's hospital because of economic hardship. She was said to be under-nourished and under-stimulated when she arrived in Britain.

Mr Boast, who is not under arrest but may not leave the country, was given rights of custody for the baby by her parents last year.

But Romanian prosecutor Radu Bodea, said this was not the same as a formal adoption, which typically takes over a year and involves stringent international safeguards.

"He didn't have permission to adopt the child," he said. "The baby crossed the border without the legal papers."

The British embassy had invited her parents to meet British officials in Bucharest to confirm they had given up their legal right to the child, but did not ask whether a formal adoption had taken place. An embassy spokesman said last night: "The parents were asked whether they had given up the rights to their child voluntarily. They said they were happy."

Mr Boast is a former nightclub manager and businessman from Great Harwood, near Blackburn, Lancashire, who began running convoys of donated food and medicine into Romania in 1991. He is based in the village of Flin, near Oradea.

Amanda Page, the solicitor working on the adoption for the Duns, also advised Bernadette and Adrian Mooney, who were sentenced in 1994 to a two year suspended sentence in Romania for attempting to smuggle a baby out of the country under a blanket in their car.

Mrs Page, who has adopted a Romanian child herself, said yesterday the Duns knew nothing about Mr Boast and had not asked him to procure a child for them.

She guessed there might be about 600 Romanian children in the country. "There are still children coming out legally," she said. "For the most part they are abandoned. Very few don't have parents."

"It is very difficult for us to understand that over there it is socially acceptable to leave your child in the hospital if you cannot afford to keep it. It is far better that they come out and go into homes than stay in institutions."

Research was showing, she said, that the children were adjusting extremely successfully in Britain.

PLO and Israel 'united to kill Hamas bomber'

Knut Royce in Washington

THE Palestine Liberation Organisation and Israel's internal security forces, Shin Bet, are cooperating to assassinate Yahya Ayyash, (right) Hamas' legendary bomb maker who was blown up this month, United States officials say.

One counter-terrorism source said it was the PLO that finally located the Gaza Strip home where Israel's most wanted man was hiding. "They [the PLO] found him," the source said, adding that Shin Bet had been unable to track down Ayyash over the past two years.

Another US government source, who monitors developments in the Middle East, confirmed that the PLO assisted Shin Bet, which supplied the booby-trapped cellular phone that was delivered to the bomber.

The remote-controlled device exploded on January 5, instantly killing Ayyash, known as "The Engineer" because of his skill in constructing bombs that killed dozens of Israelis in the past three years.

Israeli officials have refused to comment. "It's a very interesting twist to the story I've read up till now. But really we don't comment on Mr Ayyash," the chief Israeli government spokesman, Uri Dromi, said. "Maybe you should ask the Palestinian Authority." Nabil Abourdenah, a top



spokesman for the PLO chairman, Yasser Arafat, denied "100 per cent" that the PLO was in any way involved in the assassination. "We condemned this act. It was a violation of the treaty we signed with the Israelis. They committed the act on our land without respect for our sovereignty," he said.

But the disclosure by US sources shows how intertwined the once-bitter enemies have become. It could ignite old political divisions as Palestinians prepare to vote for the first time for a national council and president. Hamas, the Islamic nationalist group, opposes the more-secular PLO's efforts to reach peace with Israel through negotiations.

Mr Arafat reached a truce with Hamas last month, by which the radical group agreed to suspend attacks on

Israelis and not to interfere with Saturday's election.

"Those who are behind it [the assassination] are definitely not helping us and they are not helping the peace process," Mr Abourdenah said.

"We had almost reached an understanding with all of these [militant] groups to stop violence. For five or six months, everything was quiet. And then suddenly, with the death of Ayyash, they are beginning to move again."

Three days after the assassination, Mr Arafat publicly denounced Israel for killing "the martyr, Yahya Ayyash". And officials of Mr Arafat's Palestinian authority have reportedly teamed up with Hamas members to investigate the assassination, even though certain analysts say some Hamas leaders feared Ayyash's growing popularity and that they could no longer control his suicide-bomb attacks.

Israel, through anonymous sources, has provided unusual detail to the media of the killing, but has been careful to suggest that it acted alone. Yet shortly before the assassination there was a startling disclosure of the extent of co-operation between the PLO and Shin Bet in earlier operations.

Appearing in a closed-door session before the Knesset, Israel's parliament, Shin Bet's chief, Karmi Gillon, disclosed that the PLO had helped thwart as many as 80 suicide attacks on Israeli targets last year. — Newsway.

Unionists 'to ditch Tories in autumn'

David Hencke Westminster Correspondent

THE Ulster Unionists will end their support for the Conservatives in the autumn, a former political aide to Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, has advised business clients in a confidential briefing paper.

Jonathan Cairns, who was in the centre of the Ulster peace initiative until last November and is now a parliamentary lobbyist with the Communications Group, has put business clients on alert for an autumn election.

He says that Labour's improved standing in Northern Ireland, John Major's "lame duck" government and Ulster Unionist leader David Trimble's "limited bargaining power" over the Irish peace deal will leave the Unionists little "advantage in going down with the Tories in 1997".

"Any understanding between the Government and the Ulster Unionists will not last beyond the autumn unless there is a dramatic improvement in the Tories' electoral prospects. MPs should be prepared to face the electorate at any point after that," he says.

Mr Cairns's analysis — written a week ago after Emma Nicholson's defection to the Liberal Democrats — says that relations are already greatly strained between the Unionists and the Government over the joint framework document for a peace settlement.

"Another problem for the Conservatives is that relations between the Unionists and the Labour Party have improved dramatically since the election of Mr Blair. In particular, the replacement of the avowedly nationalist Kevin McNamara by the pragmatic Dr Mo Mowlam has greatly increased co-operation.

"In reality... most Unionists still feel more comfortable with a Conservative government. At the moment, Unionists are drawing some comfort from the belief that the framework document is dead and that the Government will stand firm on decommissioning of IRA weapons. While the second of these is probable, the first

represents wishful thinking." Mr Cairns says that while in the short term — until July — the Ulster Unionists will keep the Tories in office, they face a big risk if they upset Labour. "Mr Trimble will be anxious not to alienate the Labour Party... by simply propping up an ailing, lame-duck government. He will not want to repeat the Unionists' tactical mistake of 1978-79 when, by maintaining Labour in office... they succeeded in irritating Mrs Thatcher and lost favour with the incoming Tory government."

He also warns that a decision to support the Tories has potentially serious consequences for Mr Trimble's leadership because he was elected to have "a less trusting relationship with Mr Major". Failure to take a tough line with Mr Major would leave him "vulnerable to the vultures within his own party and prey to the Paisleyite cries of betrayal".

Mr Major's position for manoeuvre to help the Unionists is "severely limited", he says. "As a result it would appear at this stage (and not counting dramatic developments such as a return to violence) the most that Mr Trimble could expect to achieve is to exert a negative influence on events."

"Mr Trimble... cannot compel the Government to adopt a Unionist agenda and Mr Major is unable to find the means of delivering it without risking the central achievement of his period in office — peace in Northern Ireland."

Last night Mr Trimble said neither he nor any Ulster Unionist MP had discussed the paper with Mr Cairns. He added: "Mr Cairns is a very knowledgeable person about the state of affairs in Northern Ireland. I look forward to reading it in your paper."

Mr Cairns said: "I don't want to comment on this confidential paper. All I will say is that it represents my own views and I have not consulted Ulster Unionists or government ministers about its contents."

Among the companies and organisations which have received the briefing are British Nuclear Fuels, the Newspaper Publishers Association, and the Police Federation.

Queen will not bail out duchess

continued from page 1

Prince Andrew, the duchess has received £15,000 a year from her estranged husband, who also pays the school fees of their children, Princess Beatrice and Princess Eugenie. She has also received substantial amounts by giving interviews to magazines. Royalties from the cartoon character she invented, have not yet begun to flow, but could reach several million pounds if the character is a hit in the

US. Prince Andrew receives £249,000 a year from the Queen to cover public duties and earns around £30,000 per year as a navy lieutenant commander.

The duchess's financial crisis came to light after the resignation of Dominique Vulliamy and Simone Canetty-Clarke, her public relations advisers. Both earned around £32,000 a year, but their resignations were put down to personal differences rather than cost-cutting.

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سكان الامل



# Iraq close to agreeing UN oil deal

Ian Black  
Diplomatic Editor

**S**ADDAM HUSSEIN was on the verge last night of a move of calculated desperation — taking up a humiliating United Nations offer to sell oil to feed his suffering people, thereby hoping to prolong his own rule, five years after the Gulf war.

President Saddam's precise intentions were unclear, but the development marks a new stage in the battle of wills between him and his coalition enemies, as well as mounting pressure for relief for millions of ordinary Iraqis.

This week the Red Cross described the humanitarian situation in Iraq as disastrous, and reported a five-fold increase in infant mortality since the Gulf war. John English of the British Red Cross, just back from a trip to Iraq, said yesterday: "The level of malnutrition is on a par with famine-ravaged countries like Sudan."

UN experts estimate that 4 million of Iraq's 20 million people face starvation.

Diplomats in London and New York said Baghdad was expected shortly to announce its acceptance of UN resolution 986, passed in April 1995. This would allow the sale, under UN auspices, of up to \$4 billion of oil a year to pay for badly-needed humanitarian supplies.

Iraq will respond to a call to conduct a dialogue on the subject of oil in return for food and medicine on the basis that there should be no preconditions imposed on us," the deputy prime minister, Tariq Aziz, was quoted as saying by the official Iraqi News Agency. But Nizar Hamdoun, Iraq's ambassador to the UN, was ready to tell the Security Council his country now wanted to discuss implementation.

"This is an about-face," said one United States diplomat. "Till now they've said there's nothing to talk about. If Saddam is able to play this as a victory then he's bought himself more time. It indicates a degree of desperation."

President Saddam is apparently gambling that by re-engaging with the international community, he can rehabilitate himself — though the price will be agreeing to export oil through Turkey and allowing the proceeds to

be paid into a UN-controlled account to finance equitable relief among his Kurdish enemies in the north and disaffected Shi'ites in the south.

British officials counselled caution: "If it really is implementation of [resolution] 986 it's a good thing, but if they want to open negotiations on substance then it's not a game we will play," said one.

Both Britain and the US are sharply aware that acceptance of the resolution could strengthen Iraqi demands to lift all sanctions, though the key oil embargo is linked to compliance with other UN resolutions demanding the scrapping of its weapons of mass destruction.

Word of the offer to discuss implementation surfaced as three French parliament members headed to Iraq to assess the deteriorating economic conditions that Baghdad blames on the embargo.

Under resolution 986 Iraq can sell \$1 billion worth of oil every 90 days or \$2 billion over six months to meet humanitarian needs of its people. After 180 days the resolution can be renewed.

The \$1 billion can be raised by \$28 million to pay tariffs that Turkey may charge for the use of the Kirkuk-Yumurtalik pipeline.

The resolution would take effect a day after a report from Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, whose staff has to negotiate plans to implement the resolution and other arrangements with the Iraqi government.

Oil sales proceeds available for Iraq's humanitarian supplies would be about \$650 million to \$680 million of each \$1 billion. A 30 per cent deduction, \$300 million, would be earmarked for a Gulf war reparations fund, including to Kuwait.

A sum of \$130 million to \$150 million every 90 days is to go for UN humanitarian programmes for Kurds in the north.

Iraq will be permitted to import equipment needed to repair the pipeline to Turkey. It may finance these goods through letters of credit on future oil sales.

Oil contracts need approval by the Security Council's sanctions committee to make sure prices are at "fair market value" and letters of credit are paid to an escrow account so costs for compensation and UN expenses can be deducted.



Worm in the plan... Apple's error was in refusing to license its Macintosh operating system widely, allowing Microsoft to establish a market stranglehold

# Apple cuts 3,000 jobs in battle to survive computer war

Mark Tran in New York

**T**HE Apple computer company yesterday announced plans to axe up to 3,000 workers, a fifth of its workforce, as part of its latest restructuring in an increasingly desperate struggle for survival.

It also intends to withdraw from the low end of the personal computer market and concentrate on more expensive and profitable models.

The layoffs follow a purge of 2,500 people less than three years ago, and underline the decline of a pioneer of the personal computer revolution.

Apple's troubles cannot be blamed on its products, widely hailed as the most user-friendly PCs on the market. That Apple has sunk to its present state is proof that the best product on the market is no guarantee of success.

Apple is learning the same hard lesson as Sony with its Betamax video cassette recorder system. Betamax was clearly superior to its VHS rival, manufactured by Matsushita, but Sony's

refusal to license the system to other manufacturers confined Betamax to the dustbin of history.

Apple began life in the back of a garage in the mid-1970s, the brainchild of a couple of computer nerds in their 20s, Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak. They incorporated the company on April Fool's Day, 1976, and built it into a giant that won rave reviews for its easy-to-use computers.

While much blame has been heaped on Apple's chief executive, Michael Spindler, for the company's predicament, the fundamental error was made by his predecessor, John Sculley. In a classic strategic mistake, Mr Sculley declined to widely license the Macintosh operating system in the 1980s, allowing Microsoft to eventually establish a stranglehold on the computer software market.

Mr Spindler, appointed to succeed Mr Sculley three years ago, compounded Apple's problems with a series of misjudgements, especially when he drastically underestimated demand in Christmas 1994, resulting in up to

\$1 billion in lost sales. Such mistakes pulled the rug from under Apple's goal of attaining a 20 per cent market share.

Its market share is hovering around 10 per cent and threatens to shrink under a blitzkrieg from PC suppliers using Microsoft's Windows 95 operating system. The success of Windows 95 must be especially galling for Apple, since many of the features touted by Microsoft have been available on the Macintosh for years.

More ominously, as Apple's market share has shrunk, software companies have grown increasingly reluctant to develop applications for its computers. Today, most software developers write new programs first for Windows and only later, if at all, for the much smaller Macintosh segment of the market. Now they may not even bother with Apple.

Apple's board is due to meet next week and Mr Spindler's future seems increasingly tenuous.

There is no shortage of advice for Apple. Many analysts

argue that it should stop making computers and concentrate on software. At the moment it is fighting on too many fronts, helping to develop chips to compete with Intel, hardware to compete with thousands of PC suppliers, and software to compete with Microsoft, among others. Unlike rivals selling PCs, Apple must spend large amounts on research, development and marketing for its wide range of products.

Apple is still hugely popular in publishing, design and education and the company may survive in those niche markets. But to compete in a world full of cut-throat PC vendors, it needs the backing of a stronger company. Several possible suitors have been mentioned, including IBM, Sun Microsystems and Oracle, a software company.

Some Japanese companies, such as Sony and Canon, are also thought to be interested. For many, Apple has represented the American dream. A successful bid from Tokyo would be a rude awakening.

## The best manufacture does not always win

**T**HE BEST technology does not necessarily sell itself. Nicholas Bannister and Jack Schofield write. In the battle of the video tape recorders in the late 1970s, Matsushita's VHS system trounced Sony's Betamax, although the latter provided a better picture.

Matsushita licensed its technology to many manufacturers and VHS machines flooded on to the market. Sony initially refused to allow anyone else to make Betamax machines. Video rental shops dropped Betamax films as it became clear VHS had captured the lion's share of the equipment market.

WHEN Christopher Latham Scholes laid out the Qwerty keyboard for the Remington Type Writer almost 130 years ago, he placed the most common letters on opposite sides of the typebasket, making keys less likely to jam. Electrical contacts have replaced mechanical keys, but so many keyboards use Qwerty that it cannot easily be changed for a "superior" alternative.

ATTEMPTS to replace the analogue audio cassette have had little success. Philips and Matsushita launched the Digital Compact Cassette to give CD quality sound on tape. Customers who had just swallowed to CDs preferred to stay with their existing cassette recorders.

## Four jailed over Munch art theft

Simon Townley in Oslo and Sally Weale

**F**OUR men involved in the theft of the Edward Munch masterpiece, *The Scream*, were jailed in Oslo yesterday.

The painting, valued at \$46 million, was stolen from the National Gallery in Oslo in February 1994 and recovered undamaged three months later following a covert operation by Scotland Yard undercover officers.

Yesterday, as Judge Oddvar Ege read out the verdicts at Oslo city court, one of the defendants, Pal Enger, threw a jug of water to the floor and screamed: "I am innocent."

Enger, aged 38, a former professional footballer who previously stole another Munch painting, was sentenced to the maximum six years and three months for theft. William Aasheim, aged 30, was jailed for three years and nine months.

Jan Olsen, aged 49, who claimed he had only been trying to help the authorities recover the painting, attempted to run out of court after being sentenced to two years and eight months for handling stolen goods and conspiring to sell the painting.

Bjorn Grytdal, aged 28, was sentenced to four years and nine months on similar charges. All four men pleaded not guilty and are expected to appeal against the sentences.

The *Scream*, completed in 1893, was the best of a number of versions. It was stolen on the opening day of the 1994 Winter Olympics at Lillehammer. Two unidentified men were filmed by a security camera climbing a ladder at

the front of the gallery. They smashed a window, grabbed the painting and made off in a car in less than a minute, leaving a message, "Thanks for the poor security."

The court case began last August and was completed in December after 244 witnesses gave evidence.

During the trial, the court moved temporarily to Bow Street magistrates' court in London to hear evidence from two British undercover officers working for Scotland Yard's art and antiques squad, who recovered the painting after posing as representatives from the Paul Getty Museum in California, and helped ensnare the gang.

It emerged during the trial that an alarm went off at 6.30am on the day the picture was taken but a security guard thought it was a fault in the system. The alarm was raised 19 minutes after the break-in when a policeman saw a ladder leaning against the window.

Cristof Feydt, a defence lawyer, said security was so bad that the theft must have been an inside job. He described the verdicts as a murder of justice.

Commander Roy Ramm, head of Scotland Yard's organised crime group (specialist operations), of which the art and antiques squad forms a part, said his officers played a major part in securing the recovery of the painting. One of the undercover officers, known during the operation as Sid Walker, added: "There was an extreme sense of satisfaction in recovering a national treasure."

How to steal a masterpiece, G2 cover story

## Shell and Esso start price war

Ian King

**A** PETROL pump price war broke out last night as Esso and Shell slashed prices in a desperate attempt to win back their falling market shares.

The pair — who have lost millions of customers to lower-charging supermarket rivals like Tesco, Asda and Sainsbury — said they were taking the step for the benefit of motorists.

Drivers' organisations, led by the AA and the RAC, welcomed the news, but the Petrol Retailers Association, the industry body, warned that a prolonged price war could result in almost half of Britain's petrol stations, particularly those in rural areas, going out of business.

The cuts mean the price of a litre of four star will fall by an average of 2p to 4p, which the AA estimates will save a motorist clocking up 12,000 miles a year around £94 annually. Unleaded and diesel prices will also fall by an average of around 2p a litre.

The pump war broke out when Esso, which with 2,100 forecourts is the market leader, said it was launching a scheme, Pricewatch, in which it promises to match the lowest petrol price offered by any supermarket within a three mile radius of its stations.

Esso said the scheme followed private research suggesting that three-quarters of motorists are prepared to drive up to three miles in search of cheaper petrol. The company's 10-year-old Tiger Tokens scheme, in which customers receive tokens which can be exchanged for "gifts" when they buy petrol, is to be scrapped.

Managing director Ian Upton said Esso was not launching a price war, insisting that the concept was not undercutting its rivals in a short-term move.

"We are committed to giving customers what they want," he said. "In central Scotland and the north-east of England, where the concept has been tested, motorists voted with their wheels."

Shell immediately hit back, promising to cut prices by up to 4p a litre from midnight.

David Pirret, general manager of Shell UK, said: "We have committed ourselves to a regional price war for around six months and are now offering lower prices to the rest of the country."

He said Shell would not be "compromising" by cutting other benefits to customers, and pledged that the group's loyalty card, Shell Smart, would continue.

The supermarket chains, who account for around one in every four litres of petrol now sold in Britain, said they would match Shell and Esso's cuts.

Tesco chairman Sir Ian MacLaurin said: "We've forced Esso to reduce their price, and will match any cuts made by other people."

Britain's other two petrol giants, Texaco and BP, also promised to make price cuts where possible.

However, Paul Sykes, president of the Petrol Retailers Association, warned that 8,000 petrol stations — almost half — could close over the next two years.

"If petrol prices fall below cost, as they did during Esso's trial run in Scotland, we estimate that up to 45 per cent of Britain's petrol stations could close altogether," he said.

# HEAL'S WINTER SALE ENDS THIS WEEKEND

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**G2 page 8**

Leaving Las Vegas is made with great passion and considerable understanding. Its outstanding virtue is that it is almost entirely non-judgmental. It doesn't approve or disapprove of these people. It simply shows them some sort of sympathy in their wretchedness.

Derek Malcolm



4 BRITAIN

# IRA woman hits back over payout

David Sharrock  
Ireland Correspondent

**T**HE convicted IRA bomber Donna Maguire was last night fighting a rearguard action through her solicitor as politicians and Provisional IRA victims denounced her £13,500 compensation award for a twisted ankle.

Department of the Environment lawyers are considering an appeal against the award made at the High Court in Belfast. The court heard Ms Maguire, who spent six years in European prisons before being sentenced to nine years jail for bombing a British army base in Omagh, had to give up dancing and wearing high heels after tripping on an uneven pavement.

Ms Maguire, aged 28, of Neury, Co Down, was freed immediately because of the time she had spent in custody.

Yesterday Colin Parry, who received £7,500 after his 12-year-old son Tim was killed in the 1993 IRA bombing in Warrington, called for a review of the compensation system. "Every time these judgments come along, it reminds us how little society appears to value a child's life," he said.

Sandra Pascock, aged 49, whose prison officer husband,

Jim, was shot dead by the Protestant UVF at their north Belfast home two years ago, said: "I'm gobsmacked, absolutely gobsmacked. I hope she chokes on that money."

There was more outrage at Westminster, where MPs added their voices to the calls for a review of the compensation system. Peter Robinson, deputy leader of the hardline Democratic Unionist Party, said: "This is an insult to all those families who have lost relatives as a result of terrorism and who have been paid derisory amounts."

But cab driver Malcolm Egerton, aged 42, who was paid substantially more than Ms Maguire after being hijacked by the IRA in 1982 and forced to drive a bomb to Whitehall, backed her right to compensation. "I wouldn't think there's anything wrong with her getting the money, as long as it happened while she was walking around as an ordinary member of the public and not going about acts of terrorism."

In Belfast Ms Maguire's solicitor, Leo White, hit back at her critics. "I view many of these comments by English politicians and some here as nothing other than hysteria. "This sort of emotional whup-up is wrong... and it does nothing to contribute in anyway to the peace process."

## Dublin attacks Sinn Fein's hopes as being 'unrealistic'

David Sharrock

**S**INN Fein had "unrealistic expectations" of what it would get out of a negotiated settlement in Northern Ireland which were an obstacle to progress, one of the Irish government's coalition partners said yesterday.

Proinsias De Rossa, leader of Democratic Left and a former IRA intern, told an Ulster Unionist fringe group that Northern Ireland "is a legitimate part of the United Kingdom and must remain so for as long as the majority of the people of Northern Ireland wish it".

His comments were seen as the furthest a Dublin minister has yet gone in reassuring Unionists about what the future holds for them. In another sign of the changed times in Belfast, Mr De Rossa

became the first senior Irish politician to address Unionists in the recently formed Labour Group.

Mr De Rossa said that Irish unity could not be forced upon Unionists "and they cannot and should not be manipulated into it. As I see it no serious British politician believes withdrawal is possible or indeed honourable. What they want is to minimise the problems that Northern Ireland causes for the rest of the British political system."

He urged Unionists to read the framework document objectively. Co-operative ventures in the training of nurses and mutual recognition of teacher qualifications were not likely to drive anyone to the barricades, Sinn Fein was mistaken in greeting the document as a sign that Britain was inclined towards disengagement.



Lady of leisure: the duchess hits the slopes



Glittering image: showing off her jewellery

Edward Pilkington on why duchess's £1 million debt proved too much for the palace



Lady of letters... Promoting book of Budgie the helicopter

## Fergie faces day of reckoning out in the cold

**T**HE prompt and sharply-worded response from Buckingham Palace yesterday to news of the Duchess of York's critical finances underlined the determination of the Queen and the royal household to wash their hands of a woman whom they have long considered to be a liability.

The intention of the statement was clear: to hold her at arms length. "Management of her financial affairs is the duchess's responsibility," it said.

Sarah Ferguson, or Fergie as she is affectionately called, has been out in the cold since she was captured

on camera topless by a poolside, five months after her marriage broke down, having her toes sucked by her American "financial adviser" John Bryan.

The Queen is believed to have ordered that the duchess conducted no more official engagements after the separation from Prince Andrew in March 1992. In 1991, she undertook 213 such duties.

The palace's hope in dissociating itself from the duchess's cash-flow troubles is that the flak from creditors and the press will not hit the monarchy. The royal household has tactfully colluded with the image of

the duchess as a loose and uncontrollable woman — a senior palace press aide once famously accused her of being unfit to be a member of the royal family.

The information apparently leaked from her private accounts suggests that last year she spent £384,000 on staffing — a butler, cook, nanny, gardener, cleaner, dresser, lady-in-waiting and two personal assistants.

Then there was a spending spree of near Imelda Marcos proportions in New York, where she allegedly bought 20 pairs of hand-made shoes and boots for a total of £3,000. Her hair-

stylist, Nicky Clarke, costs £150 a go — although a friend said yesterday that the duchess was now doing her own hair as a cost-cutting measure. She is reported to have spent £50,000 on 12 dresses from top designer Isabel Kristensen, and she enjoyed holidays in Switzerland and the Caribbean. The duchess said yesterday her financial affairs were "not anybody else's business".

A year ago she told an audience in Washington that she was hard-up. "I'm a separated mother of two, largely responsible for the finances of my family." She was then having to leave a

rented home she shared with her two daughters, princesses Beatrice and Eugenie. She may return to Sunninghill Park, her £5 million marital home in Berkshire, to live in a converted out-building.

The palace is annoyed by the latest rash of bad publicity because the Queen has been striving to dilute criticism that the royals are profligate.

In 1993, following a wave of adverse commentary on the fact that she was not paying tax, the Queen agreed to reimburse Parliament the annuities paid for the Duke of York and other lesser royals.

## Doctors and jailers agree on unshackling of Holloway prisoner in hospital

Alan Travis  
Home Affairs Editor

**C**HAINS have been removed from the HIV positive woman prisoner who was shackled 24 hours a day while in a specialist London hospital Aids unit.

The decision to unshackle the Holloway prison inmate known as Jane was taken after senior staff from the jail agreed with doctors at St

Mary's hospital, west London, that her medical condition outweighed the security considerations.

The Home Secretary, Michael Howard, prepares today to issue guidelines to prison governors banning the use of chains and cuffs for pregnant inmates in the hours before they give birth.

Jane, aged 34, had been handcuffed night and day to a prison officer since she was transferred to the hospital a

week ago from Holloway prison, where she was being held on remand for importing heroin. She is being treated for suspected forms of Aids related illnesses, including hepatitis. Her case brought angry protests, particularly because she was unconvicted.

At night officers used jackets to wrap the chain used to shackle her to stop it rattling so she could sleep.

The acting director-general of the Prison Service, Richard

Tilt, reviewed the case on Tuesday. He said discretion already existed for the chains to be removed in such cases if the medical condition of the inmate made it necessary.

Her solicitor Sarah Cleary had said she would seek an emergency injunction after two bail applications to free her client were turned down by Old Bailey and High Court judges.

Shackling was introduced

last April after the IRA escapes from the maximum security Whitemoor and Parkhurst prisons.

A prison governor decides whether an inmate can be trusted to go to hospital unescorted.

He does not discriminate on the grounds of her offence, whether it be petty theft or serial murder.

All are chained and cuffed outside prison unless they are actually giving birth.

# Raft sank with boat

Geoffrey Gibbs

**A** SELF-inflating life raft that could have saved the crew of the sunken trawler Pescado if it had been fitted properly, was still in working order when it was examined after the vessel was raised from the seabed 21 years later.

But the jury in the trial of the two businessmen who operated the Plymouth registered scalloper were told yesterday that the 10-man raft went to the bottom with the boat because it was lashed to railings and could not float free and inflate.

Joseph O'Connor and Alan Ayras each deny six charges of manslaughter arising from the loss of the 100 tonne Pescado, which sank with all hands in 340ft of water 13 miles off south Cornwall in 1974.

The charges allege that the vessel was unstable and unseaworthy, had no valid UK fishing vessel safety certificate and no adequate life-saving equipment or means of alerting the emergency services.

The prosecution says the defendants were in breach of a duty of care amounting to gross negligence, which was a substantial cause of the deaths of the five men and one woman crew.

On the second day of the trial at Bristol crown court, Francis Gilbert QC, for the prosecution, showed the jury a series of photographs and video footage of the steel-hulled boat on the sea bed and in dry dock after it had been raised, including footage of the covered raft being taken from the wreck in September 1993. The video showed the raft inflating when a rope attached to a gas canister was pulled during an inspection on shore.

"The irony is that it worked," Mr Gilbert said. "It would have saved most if not all of the crew, but it was never able to be used because of the way that Mr O'Connor supervised it being put on the vessel."

Earlier, Mr Gilbert told the jury it was the crown's case that both O'Connor and Ayras were actively involved in the management of Guidelay, the company that acquired the Pescado from the receivers of Mr O'Connor's failed Wherry Fish Selling Company in 1990. The case continues on Monday.

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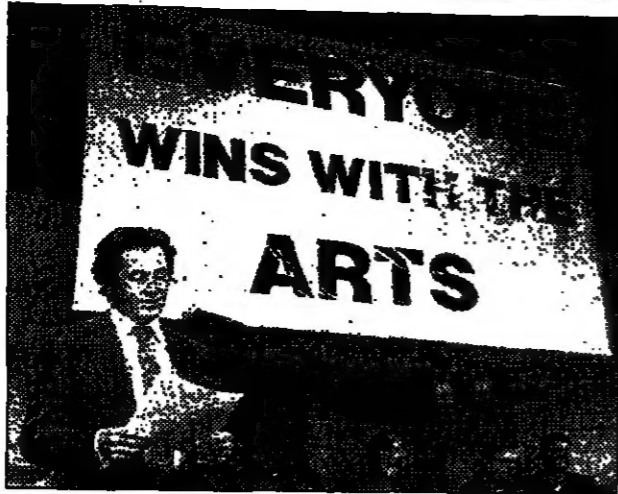
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صكيات الامل



07/01/1990

Raft sank with boat



Melvyn Bragg at yesterday's protest against £8.5 million cuts in arts subsidies. PHOTOGRAPH: E. HAMILTON WEST

Producers protest at arts cuts

Sarah Boseley

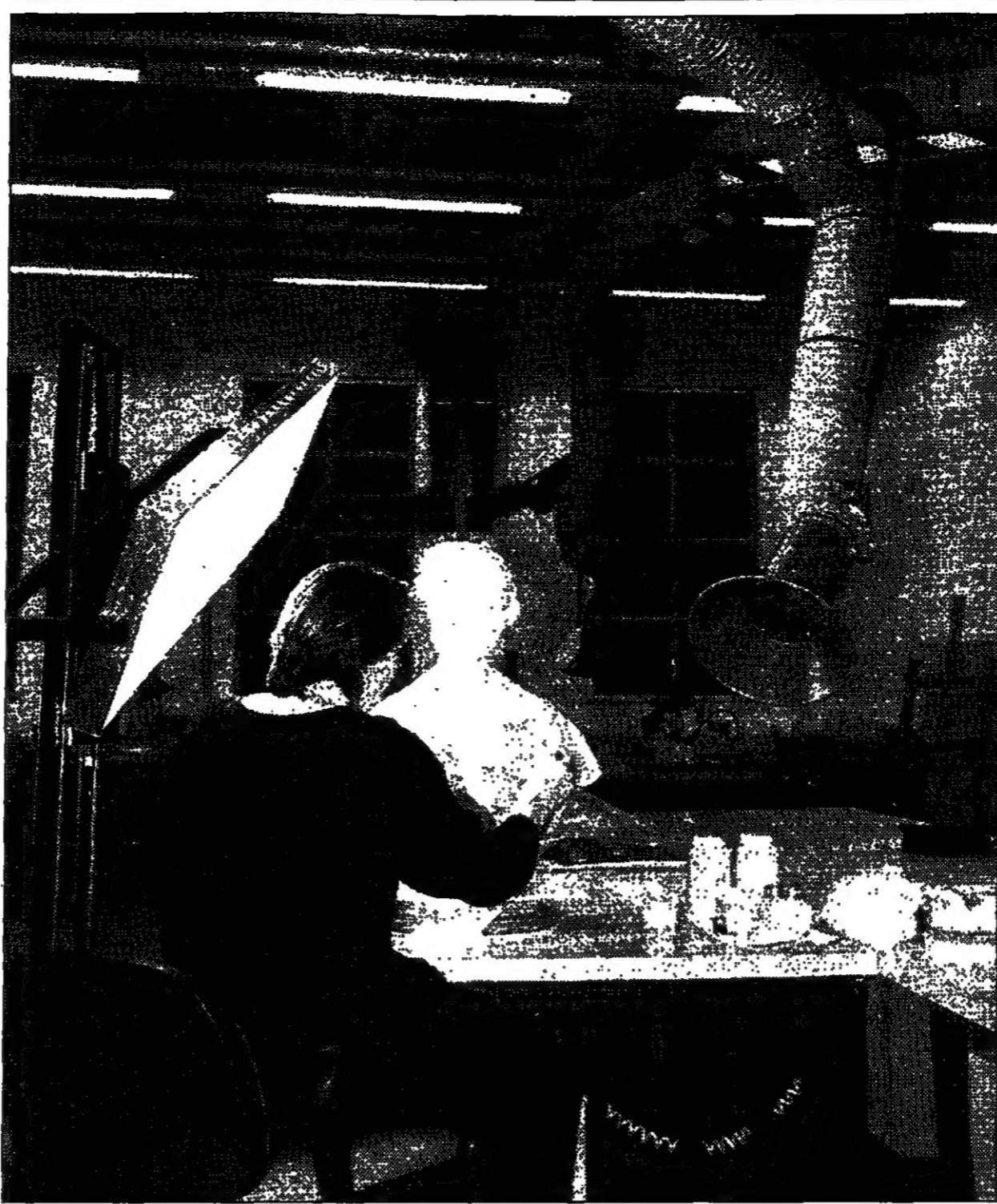
LEADING theatre producers and actors held a rally yesterday to protest at a proposed £8.5 million cut in government funding for the arts over the next two years.

Some 60 speakers went on the stage of the Playhouse Theatre in London to denounce the ravages that money shortages were working on the arts. Although they spoke against the backdrop of the theatre's current big commercial success, Roy Cooney's farce Funny Money, they insisted that the plight of the arts in Britain was no laughing matter.

Royal Court Theatre, London, said the theatre had received £16 million towards a £21 million refurbishment project, but there was nothing for putting on productions.

The actor Charlotte Cornwell told the rally that in Ireland, where she had just filmed a second series of The Governor, a television prison drama, the government had recognised the importance of the arts to the economy, and made it financially attractive for artists to go there to work.

Others spoke of the enormous loss to unemployed youngsters and to those who started in the subsidised theatre, he said. "The subsidised theatre and commercial theatre need each other."



Kirsten Hope at work at the Victoria and Albert Museum, a beneficiary of government funding. PHOTOGRAPH: GARRY WEASER

New hope for schizophrenics

David Brindley, Social Services Correspondent

THE first results of the use of a new generation of drugs in top security special hospitals suggest that they work for many patients with schizophrenia who have proved resistant to other medication, psychiatrists said yesterday.

If confirmed, the results would represent a breakthrough in the treatment of some of the most violent patients detained in the hospitals. Up to half those with schizophrenia are said to be resistant to other drugs.

100 of the population — are increasingly regarded with fear and suspicion because of a series of highly publicised killings by chronic sufferers. But the new drugs may have dangerous side-effects.

is treatment innovation and research". Emmett Larkin, consultant psychiatrist at Rampton hospital, Nottinghamshire, said 30 to 50 per cent of patients with schizophrenia were treatment-resistant. Of the first 50 Rampton patients put on clozapine, 43 per cent had been discharged or transferred to lower security units.

News in brief

NHS managers 'up 400pc on 1989'

THE number of nurses and midwives in the NHS was cut by 13 per cent between 1988 and 1989, while the number of managers increased by 400 per cent, a Labour Party survey says today. This represents a loss of 50,000 nurses and midwives and a gain of 18,340 managers. The number of nurses undergoing training was cut by 31 per cent, a loss of 19,020.

Mother who killed baby jailed

A MOTHER who deprived her baby of food and poisoned her with huge amounts of salt was jailed for five years yesterday. Karen Fox, aged 35, of Telford, Shropshire, was convicted in October at Stafford crown court of the manslaughter of her daughter, Hedden, and cruelty to another child.

Lairds accept right to roam

AN AGREEMENT by which Scottish landowners for the first time formally acknowledge their countrymen's traditional right to roam received a qualified welcome at its launch yesterday. But walkers and climbers remain doubtful that the Concordat on Access will persuade some estate owners to tolerate visitors.

Crows 'tool-makers'

A SCIENTIST has discovered crows in the Pacific that make tools out of twigs and leaves to hook insects. Gavin Hunt, an ecologist at Massey University in New Zealand, says in the Journal Nature today that the high degree of tool-making by the New Caledonian crow is unknown in other wild creatures.

Reform role for inquiry judge

SIR Richard Scott, the judge in charge of the arms to Iraq inquiry, will oversee changes in the civil justice system to make it quicker and cheaper, Lord MacKay, the Lord Chancellor, said yesterday. Judges will play a substantial role in managing cases.

Buyer found for transport lab

THE Government is to sell the Transport Research Laboratory to the Transport Research Foundation, Steven Norris, the road safety minister, announced yesterday. The sale is expected to be completed by the end of next month. The foundation, which includes members of TRRL's management, plans to operate as a non-profit distributing company, with membership drawn from a range of interests in the transport sector.

University applicants down

UNIVERSITY applications have fallen for the first time since 1986, the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service said yesterday. The 1 per cent drop (about 5,000 candidates) shows demand levelling off as the number of 18-year-olds is beginning to rise, and may be due to fears of hardship and better job prospects, said UCAS spokesperson, Jess Enderby.

Mark Doty

An article on January 16 about Mark Doty, who won the T S Eliot poetry prize for poems written between his partner's diagnosis as HIV positive and the onset of Aids, wrongly stated that Mr Doty himself was HIV positive. Mr Doty's publishers have asked the Guardian, which regrets the error, to set out the true position.

Remark at children's party led to Channel 5 challenge

Andrew Gull Media Correspondent

A CHANCE remark by Greg Dyke, head of the winning Channel 5 consortium, to one of his rivals at a children's party led to Virgin Television's legal challenge. The High Court heard yesterday, Richard Branson's Virgin TV is seeking a judicial review of the independent Television Commission's award of the licence to Channel 5 Broadcasting.

Broadcasting had been funded up to £206 million, but that had to be put in an extra £100 million. Lord Justice Henry, who is hearing the case with Mr Justice Turner, said the conversation was disputed. The licence for Channel 5, Branson's last terrestrial network, was awarded to Channel 5 Broadcasting which bid £22,002,000. Virgin TV, which submitted an identical bid, was failed on the quality of its programmes, as was UKTV, which bid £26,26 million. Rupert Murdoch's New Century TV passed the quality test, but bid only £2 million.

Homebase advertisement featuring various furniture items like bookcases, chests, and sofas with prices and promotional text: 'At Homebase prices, you can tidy up and put away the difference.'

Advertisement for Suzanne Moore: 'Women behaving badly may be the media flavour of the month, but it is already slightly stale. Since when have women who behave badly needed permission from Channel 4 to do what they damn well please?'

Advertisement for Hill House Hammond: 'HOUSE INSURANCE SAVE UP TO 50% OR MORE... Tel: 0181 648 9965 NOW!'



# Cowed Russians retreat to lick wounds

James Meek outside Pervomayskaya

THEY went charging into the inferno as the elite of Russian fighting men. They came out of it yesterday as exhausted, beaten foot-sloggers, the fear still imprinted on their young faces. They trudged through the snow towards waiting buses, laden down with their weapons and the memories of the shadowy rebel fighters darting from position to position in the smoke and gunfire. Asked how the battle for Pervomayskaya had gone, most shook their heads, looked down at the ground and walked on without breaking their stride.

"They're fighting better than we are," said one of the few Russian soldiers willing to speak. "The Chechens are really well dug in and we were trying to storm over open ground."

Piecing together the fragments of information from different soldiers, none of whom would give their names, there appear to have been two separate ground assaults on Monday and Tuesday, both of which were beaten back by the Chechens. The units involved were the Alpha anti-terrorist squad, the interior minister's SOBR rapid reaction force and a similar, less experienced unit formed locally in Dagestan.

The troops failed to get a proper bridgehead in the vil-

lage. Their apparently relatively low casualty rate suggests that they were not prepared to engage in the kind of hand-to-hand fighting needed to clear trenches.

"This is not an anti-terrorist operation, it's a military offensive to re-capture territory," said an Alpha officer.

"We were all fighting together, SOBR, the Dagestani and Alpha. SOBR got into the village twice and had to withdraw. The Chechens are strong, there are machine-guns everywhere."

One SOBR soldier said the Chechens seemed to have no shortage of ammunition. A member of the Dagestani unit said four of his group were killed and seven wounded.

Another SOBR soldier said they had got within 20 yards of the village mosque, which the Chechens were using as their headquarters.

They got the order to withdraw when they realised the Chechens were closing in around them. Five minutes more, he said, and they would have been trapped.

The 50-strong SOBR team had suffered one dead and three injured, he said. He had seen two dead hostages in the village.

He described the Chechens as highly mobile — something the Russians should have known from their experiences in Grozny. And the Chechens understand what the Russians are shouting to one another; the Russians do not understand the Chechen language.



Guard duty... A Russian soldier and his dog patrol the road to Pervomayskaya

## Caucasian tinderbox

**The Caucasian Mountains**

**STAVROPOL**

**Pervomayskaya**  
Russian troops launch Grad rocket assault on about 200 Chechen rebels holding 70-120 hostages for a week. Tass reports 41 hostages 'free' in the operation.

**Grozny**  
Search goes on for 30 workers seized by Chechen gunmen Tuesday at electric power plant in Chechnya's capital.

**Trabazon**  
Pro-Chechen Turks hijack ferry Tuesday with about 200 on board, many of them Russian. They threaten to blow it up if any rescue mission mounted.

**The Avrasya** was about to leave Trabazon for Pervomayskaya.

**70 miles**

## Caucasus time bomb ready to go off

The mountain region is an ethnic and religious melting pot waiting to explode in war. A weakened Russia's only answer is to apply more force, writes David Hearst in Moscow

THERE are many parallels between the Balkans and the unstable band of frontier states straddling the North Caucasus. Both are regions where history is rarely forgotten and ethnic conflicts merely await their next cue. Both are fault lines between Christian Orthodoxy and Islam. Both are mountainous transit zones where empires have clashed, and crumbled.

This tinderbox has one extra ingredient: oil. The largest new finds of oil in Kazakhstan and the Caspian Shelf need an outlet, and the pipeline routes from Azerbaijan are either through or just north of Chechnya.

Georgia and Turkey, or Iran. Facing each other across this busy highway are three regional powers: a weakened Russia, for which the Chechen conflict has become a crisis of the Russian state; a self Turkey which, despite its diplomatic protests, is wielding more and more influence among the Turkic-speaking peoples of Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan; and fundamentalist Iran.

Behind Turkey nationalist Russia sees the West's meddling hand. It sees the same hand behind the oil companies. President Boris Yeltsin's new hardline ministers have already begun rehearsing their anti-Western rhetoric.

Vyacheslav Mikhailov, the nationalities minister, said yesterday: "What happens in Chechnya is not a local conflict. These are the consequences of the dismantling of the Soviet Union and this is a struggle of interested parties who are outside the borders of the Russian Federation."

The Russian foreign ministry and foreign intelligence service both made hostile statements yesterday, saying they had warned Turkey "more than once" about the activities of the Chechen diaspora in Turkey, which Russia claims led directly to Tuesday's ferry seizure.

In Chechnya itself, Aslan Maskhadov, the top rebel mil-

itary commander, effectively reinforced the Russian point by disavowing any role in the three hostage dramas.

The former Soviet army officer said he had not ordered the seizure of hostages on the Turkish ferry, now in the Black Sea. Nor had he ordered the seizure the same day of 30 workers — mostly Russians — in the Chechen capital Grozny.

Mr Maskhadov repeated that he had had no part in the hostage seizure by the other Chechen group a week ago in neighbouring Dagestan, which led to the Russian bombardment of the village of Pervomayskaya, where the kidnappers have dug in with their captives.

The leader of the ferry hijackers, Mohammed Toctjan, is a Turk from the northern city of Duzce, but he has fought with the Chechens.

According to the Turkish interior minister, his group recognises Shamil Basayev — the Chechen who seized hostages in Budyonovsk in southern Russia last year — as its "leader".

Before Budyonovsk and last year's battle between the Russian army and Chechen fighters for Grozny, Mr Basayev led a group of Chechen fighters who fought alongside separatists seeking to split the Abkhaz region from Georgia 18 months earlier. Together they expelled the Georgian army from the Abkhazian "capital", Sukhumi.

Mr Basayev's interest in helping the Abkhaz minority was not based simply on the old adage that my enemy's enemy is my friend. No one needs reminding that the mastermind of the Chechen

deportations in 1944 was a Georgian — Joseph Stalin.

Mr Basayev headed the military wing of the Confederation of Peoples of the Caucasus, whose aim was to restore the Republic of the North Caucasus, which briefly existed in 1918.

The dream is an independent Islamic state stretching from the Caspian to the Black Sea.

In 1986 the confederation and its possible "criminal" activities were high on Moscow's agenda. But after Abkhazia signed a ceasefire with Georgia, interest in the organisation fell and the fighters marched away.

The idea of a broad alliance of North Caucasian peoples simmers in the background, however. Although they are deeply divided in the constant battle for land and influence, the thought that they have a common enemy in Russia re-emerges at every crisis.

Relations between Georgia and Russia are also worsening. There are 200,000 Georgian refugees from Abkhazia living in western Georgia and pressing to return home. If Russia does not help it by crushing the separatists, Georgia is threatening to take "other options" — a new offensive.

The Chechen conflict may well spell the end of President Yeltsin's crisis-ridden presidency. But for the next presidential election in June gets under way. He stressed what he saw as the incompetence of Mr Yeltsin's administration, saying the seizure of the ferry was the last link in a chain of events stemming from Russia's loss of power.

"This is a lesson to those Western leaders and parliamentarians who supported the politics of the Kremlin leadership. Those policies have led to the distribution of arms, creation of flashpoints of tension, and international terrorism."

Everyone still had Mr Yavlinski's phrase ringing in their ears: "This government is as dangerous when they do as nothing as when they don't."

The anti-government mood was clear when voting took place for a new Speaker. The old Speaker, Ivan Rybkin, who had worked closely with Mr Yeltsin, was rejected and his former deputy given the job. Gennady Seleznyov, aged 48, is a communist and ex-editor of Pravda.

The extreme nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy used the ferry seizure to, attack

## Turks stand by fellow Muslims

Chris Nuttall in Ankara

THE interviewer on the Turkish television breakfast news was posing a little beyond the bounds of neutrality. "I want to congratulate you on your success," he told Mohammed Toctjan, on the telephone from the Black Sea ferry where his group of Caucasian militants were holding 250 people hostage. "I hope it turns out well for you and we teach the Russians a lesson," he concluded.

This was no rogue journalist talking. It was an expression of a common feeling.

"The public is quite obviously supporting them," said Hakan Kirimli, a history professor at Bilkent University in the capital, Ankara. "All of my colleagues feel the same, they don't want any bloodshed, but they are sympathetic to their cause," he added.

Religious and ethnic ties are behind the sentiments, and a spontaneous demonstration in support of the Chechens in Ankara yesterday. Turks have viewed with horror Russia's harsh dealings with their fellow Muslims in Chechnya since the past year. There are up to 5 million ethnic Caucasians living in Turkey, most of them descendants of those who fled the Russian invasion of the Caucasus in the 19th century.

"We are the sixth generation of those thrown from

our lands, but we have not forgotten our culture," Mr Toctjan said in a telephone interview from the ship. Prof Kirimli said: "Several generations have passed, but they have by no means lost their Caucasian identity. There is very strong North Caucasian solidarity. If something happens somewhere in the region it affects everyone."

There are 60 North Caucasian societies in Turkey and at least 15 journals and newsletters. Demonstrations, panel discussions and vigorous lobbying are common, but the ship seizure represents a new departure.

The militancy appears to stem from the experience of Mr Toctjan and Ender Ozkan, another militant who has been identified, after they set out from their village of Duzce in north-west Turkey on an Islamic mission four years ago and became holy warriors in Abkhazia and Chechnya.

Mr Toctjan, the son of an imam, a Muslim priest, and Mr Ozkan have returned to their village on several occasions and set up aid committees to help the Chechen cause. Zeki Ozken, a relative there, said yesterday that the two men had such belief and strength that they were serious in what they were threatening to do.

It was "freedom or death", Mr Toctjan said from the ship. "The struggle will continue until there is a North Caucasian confederation and Russia is driven from the region."

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IT SAYS YOU'VE ARRIVED

## Yeltsin's wary enemies play a waiting game

David Hearst in Moscow

PRESIDENT Boris Yeltsin's political opponents dodged and weaved yesterday to avoid an open conflict with the Kremlin over the Chechen crisis, nevertheless hoping to take advantage of the situation as the June election campaign gets underway.

While the country was appalled by the levelling of Pervomayskaya — and state television coverage openly casting doubt on the official version of events — the communist-dominated Duma emerged with a weakly worded resolution defending the aim of the assault on the village but condemning the means.

Parliament called on the army not to use "unjustified actions" which caused the deaths of civilians. But it said the state had to take "adequate measures" to deal with terrorism.

Only Yelena Mizulina from Yabloko, the liberal reform faction of Grigori Yavlinski, offered to put forward a vote of no-confidence in the government. But last night no one — least of all the communists — was willing to take her up on it.

Gennady Zyuganov, the leader of the Communist Party, has no interest in provoking a confrontation before the race for the presidential election in June gets under way. He stressed what he saw as the incompetence of Mr Yeltsin's administration, saying the seizure of the ferry was the last link in a chain of events stemming from Russia's loss of power.

"This is a lesson to those Western leaders and parliamentarians who supported the politics of the Kremlin leadership. Those policies have led to the distribution of arms, creation of flashpoints of tension, and international terrorism."

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The extreme nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy used the ferry seizure to, attack

Turkey. He said that the Turks should be told that if they did not mount an operation to free the Russian hostages in 72 hours, Russia would "help the Kurds".

This was not far from the official government response yesterday.

In their desperate search for a scapegoat for the growing chaos of its operation to crush Chechen separatism, three separate ministries, including the foreign ministry, accused unnamed foreign powers of seeking to destabilise the Caucasus.

The Service of Foreign Reconnaissance accused Turkey of tacitly helping the cause of the Chechen separatists. Tatiana Samoilis, its press spokeswoman, said: "The SVR has several times informed the leadership of the Russian Federation that the official authorities in Turkey are turning a blind eye to the activities of Chechen terrorists."

Although relations between Turkey and Russia are sensitive, erupting in spats over the status of the Azeri enclave of Nakhichevan, Russia rarely complains officially. These statements mark the start of what many analysts see as a more overtly nationalist line.

## News in brief

- ### Five executed in Nigeria
- An assistant police commissioner in Nigeria begged for forgiveness before being executed for armed robbery, as hundreds of people watched, at a prison in the north-west state of Kogi, where the case was tried.
- A sergeant and three civilians convicted in the same case also were shot by firing squad on Tuesday. — AP.
- ### Fridge horror
- Portuguese police have arrested a woman, aged 46, who kept a dead baby in her fridge for nine years, newspapers reported yesterday. — AP.
- ### Bangladesh closed
- A day-long general strike called by opposition parties shut down much of Bangladesh yesterday. — Reuter.
- ### Fine point saver
- A Dutch man, aged 25, convicted of killing his mother with a ballpoint pen fired from a crossbow, has been released from custody after tests apparently proved he could not have killed her that way. — AP.
- ### Mugabe challenge
- First Mizorewa, Zimbabwe's black prime minister and a bishop, said yesterday he will challenge President Robert Mugabe in then coming presidential polls. — AP.

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12/1/96



Trial moves... Silvio Berlusconi's lawyer gesticulates during the opening of the bribery case in Milan yesterday

PHOTOGRAPH: LUCA BRUNO

### Italy's TV tycoon plays to court crowd

John Hooper in Rome

**A** DEFIANT and jocular Silvio Berlusconi tried yesterday to turn the opening day of his trial for bribery into a public relations triumph. The Milan court's first — and arguably ironic — ruling saved the media mogul from ordeal by television. The judges decided that the proceedings should not be transmitted live, but could be recorded for news bulletins.

He arrived for the hearing soberly but elegantly dressed in a grey suit and blue shirt. The man who controls half of Italy's television was soon looking relaxed and even cracking jokes. Some of the journalists covering the trial had to be accommodated in a cage built to hold Red Brigades defendants. A grinning Mr Berlusconi sauntered up to the bars to tell them: "At last, you've been put in the right place."

In the lunch break, the billionaire politician, who is also chairman of AC Milan, was mobbed by supporters in the courtroom cafeteria and spent much of his time signing autographs. Many of his admirers wanted to know whether he intended buying the young Ajax striker Patrick Kluijvert. The judges, by contrast, wish to know whether Mr Berlusconi had anything to do with the £160,000 which, it is alleged, his Fininvest empire paid out in return for lenient tax audits. Mr Berlusconi, his younger brother Paolo, and nine others are charged with either giving or taking the bribes between 1989 and 1991.

Prosecutors have said that the tycoon's control of his companies' affairs was so all-encompassing he must have known of the payments. Mr Berlusconi's defence works at several levels. He denies he was aware of the payments and claims they were extorted by members of the revenue guard. That is for the courts. To the wider public forum, he has repeatedly denounced a plot, allegedly cooked up by the prosecutors. It was the same prosecutors who launched the so-called "Clean Hands" drive against corruption and led the campaign against Mr Berlusconi's efforts to curb their powers when he was prime minister.

But his arguments have sounded less specious in recent weeks since charges of extortion and abuse of office were levelled at Antonio Di Pietro, the former prosecutor who led the Berlusconi investigation. In an interview yesterday Milan's chief prosecutor, Francesco Saverio Borrelli, insisted that the trial was "like any other". When he left the courthouse yesterday, Mr Berlusconi had reason to feel satisfied with a characteristically debonair performance. But he must have also been aware that only the outcome will decide whether his political career can survive his arraignment.

### Rightwingers block efforts to eliminate sweeteners

## Turkey's 'gifts to MEPs' under fire

John Palmer in Strasbourg

**T**HE president of the European Parliament, Klaus Haensch, ordered an inquiry last night into allegations that Turkey gave presents to MEPs to thank them for approving a customs union agreement with Ankara last month. But as that inquiry began, parliamentary attempts to regulate payments made to MEPs by outside lobbyists ended in chaos and acrimony. Two resolutions which would have made it mandatory for both lobbyists and MEPs to report gifts worth £800 a year were referred back to committee, because of opposition from Conservative, Christian Democrat and other right-wing groups.

The author of one of the resolutions, Glyn Ford, the Labour member for Manchester East, said last night that the result was a blow to the credibility of the Parliament and its campaign for greater powers in the Union. "What happened today will delight the Euro-sceptics. The great majority of MEPs certainly are not corrupt, but the activities of perhaps a dirty dozen or so members could bring the entire assembly into disrepute," he said. Christian Democrat and Conservative MEPs insisted yesterday that they were opposed to any outside gift being made to a European parliamentarian. But earlier their leaders had said that an initial limit of £200 in cash or kind was "too restrictive and too intrusive".

The European Parliament has already introduced a register of members' interests and drawn up rules for the growing number of industrial and other lobby organisations active in Brussels and Strasbourg. During the debate allegations were made that an international tobacco company had paid for an MEP's research staff, and that governments seeking to influence parliamentary resolutions had paid for MEPs' holidays. "The fact is that before the resolution approving Turkey's customs union agreement with the EU was passed last month, some MEPs were taken on trips paid for by the Turkish government," Mr Ford declared. "Since the vote those MEPs who voted in favour of the agreement have been given gifts of CDs by the Ankara government."

### Kinkel rejects Major's à la carte European union and warns Britain not to miss the integration boat

Ian Traynor in Bonn

**G**ERMANY took its federalist European agenda to Oxford last night, where the foreign minister, Klaus Kinkel, delivered an impassioned plea for Britain to end its ambivalence towards European integration and join Bonn and Paris in the drive towards common policy-making. "It is better to catch the boat than swim after it," he said, opening a centre for the study of European law at Oxford University. "Europe needs Britain. But does Britain also not need Europe? The British contribution is indispensable." Mr Kinkel strongly re-

affirmed Bonn's commitment to federalist policies that are viewed with reservation in Britain — from a single European currency, to common foreign, defence and security policies. He called for a "fundamental review" of working methods in the European Commission and Council, and set his face against an à la carte European Union, as proposed by John Major, whose members could opt in and out of policy areas. Backing a "hard core" inner EU club, he said Bonn would push at this year's EU inter-governmental conference for greater integration. Although Bonn officials have despaired of talking

the British round, Mr Kinkel's Oxford pitch seemed aimed at forging a triangular Bonn-Paris-London axis. He dismissed British Euroscepticism. "Europe must not regress into a community of convenience in pursuit of free trade and prosperity," he said. The ultimate aim of German EU policy, he signalled, was "political union". Bonn viewed the single currency as a means to that end. Mr Kinkel described Anglo-German ties as "an alliance of convictions" — a "friendship, unspacious and down-to-earth, but very close and intense".

Hugo Young, page 9

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## Cars in need of a service

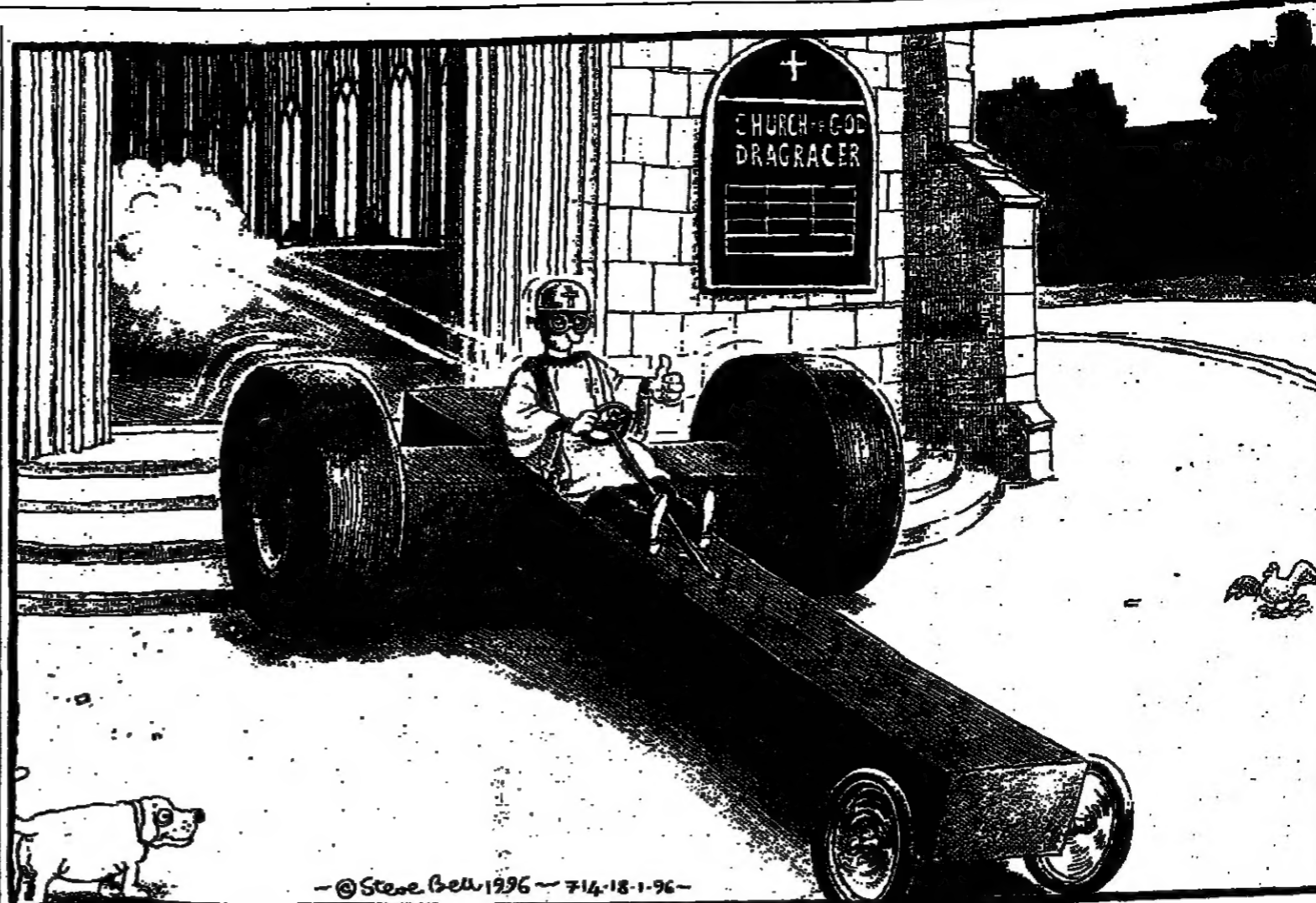
But what will they look like in the next century?

IN OCTOBER 1895 the Daily Chronicle reported that a name had still not been found for horseless carriages though a Mr F R Sims had suggested "motor car". By 1896 the first Motor Car Club had been formed and yesterday the first 100 years of the car was celebrated in the cathedral at Coventry. A cathedral is an aptly symbolic place to celebrate an artefact that has replaced religion in many people's lives. The service could be seen both as a celebration for what has undoubtedly been one of the most liberating influences of the twentieth century and also as a memorial not only for all the accidents and pollution — often needlessly — caused by the car but for domestic motor manufacturing. All our major car companies are now foreign-owned though we are still pre-eminant at designing and building hi-tech Formula 1 and Indy cars. They don't require the debilitating culture of the production line to which we have never fully become reconciled.

We are at last starting the long journey to come to terms with the car's place in society. It will continue to be a liberating influence — without any serious competition for door-to-door transport — but no longer will we build the rest of the world around it (out-of-town malls, unlimited car parks, company car perks and so on). It will have to fit the needs of a more enlightened pollution-conscious society which will demand uncluttered city centres, effective mass transit systems to convey people to work and a huge expansion of proper cycle lanes leaving the car to be used for essential journeys and recreation. The designers of the early 20 mph vehicles with flag wavers in front would be horrified if they saw these same roads conveying vehicles driving at 70 mph in opposite directions separated by only a few feet.

So, what will the car look like towards the end of the next century?

The vision of a driverless "intelligent" car transporting us across the motorway system propelled by magnetic levitation and guided by satellite navigation systems — while being prevented from crashing into the car in front by sensor rays — is technologically feasible, but probably won't happen. The consequences of a catastrophic crash through computer failure would be horrendous and it might well be the car companies that would be sued. So they won't risk it. Drivers must remain responsible for their vehicles. Computers will continue their invasion of the inside of the car, but externally their main role may be sophisticated traffic and route control. During the next century the iron grip of the oil industry on the car is likely to be broken as cleaner sources of power like hydrogen are used. Some see a big future for a revived steam engine. Tyres may become redundant if magnetic levitation is applied but more likely a similar effect will be achieved by hi-tech tyres whose contact with the ground will shrink almost to nothingness at high speeds but whose "footprint" will spread out as the car slows. The more enlightened car companies, browbeaten by being part of the problem, will try to become part of the solution by involving themselves with mass transit systems and pre-empting environmental criticism. This could even be good business if the market supports two kinds of vehicle for each family: one a light, energy-efficient one-seater occupying half of the present road width for commuting, plus a recreational vehicle for essential longer distances. It is, of course, also possible that, just as slide-rule manufacturers were driven out of business by calculator companies, that some new form of transport might drive the motor manufacturers off the road just as effectively as they killed off horse power. Beam me up Scottie.



## Letters to the Editor

### In search of stakeholding

THERE is a simple reason why the tax burden has risen by £736 billion since 1979 (Leader, January 15) and, on the Government's own figures, is set to rise as a share of national income each year this century. British taxpayers are now being forced to pay the £20 billion-a-year bill of keeping over two million people out of work.

This is because — rather than investing for the future, offering people opportunity, especially the young and long-term unemployed, to move from welfare into work, as Labour advocates — the Tories are making taxpayers pay the price of the Government's failed management of the economy.

Labour is conducting a wide-ranging and comprehensive consultation and review on corporate tax policy (Raiiwoos industry on stakeholding, January 16). The clear objective of this process is to find measures which lift legal, fiscal and institutional obstacles to long-term investment. It is incorrect to say we are "close to completing detailed plans". And at no time has Labour stated that we "have been looking at offering tax breaks for pension

funds that maintain investment in companies long-term and tax incentives for companies favouring investment over dividends".

Labour's approach to corporate taxation, and to Britain's economic future, is about encouraging more long-term investment to build a stronger economy in which there are opportunities for everyone to make the most of their potential with a true stake in society. Under the Tories, Britain is paying a high price in extra tax and borrowing for the divisive society they have created. They do nothing to build a stronger economy or fairer society, still less to recognise how one depends upon the other.

Andrew Smith MP,  
 Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury,  
 House of Commons,  
 London SW1A 0AA.

READ with interest Michael Heseltine's comments about Tony Blair's vision of a stakeholder society. In his criticism Mr Heseltine appeared to refer to co-operatives in a derogatory manner, including them in the "corporatist" society he was attacking.

Is this the same Michael

Heseltine who, last year, when he was President of the Board of Trade, sanctioned substantial TDT funding to the United Kingdom Co-operative Council to produce a resource pack which shows how to set up and run a co-operative?

At the time I thought that Mr Heseltine had grasped the idea that the co-operative approach to business, while not the answer in every case, is a valid alternative.

As the General Election approaches, it appears that Mr Heseltine is suffering increasing memory loss.

Lord Carter,  
 Chairman,  
 UK Co-operative Council,  
 House of Lords,  
 London SW1A 0AA.

IN the thirties, the buzzword was "Fordism", named for Sir Alfred Mond of ICI fame. The class collaboration of this thesis was acclaimed by almost every rightwing trade-union bureaucrat as a panacea for unemployment.

Can someone explain the difference between Fordism and Tony Blair's stakeholder society?

C Smith,  
 17 Clifton Crescent South,  
 Rotherham,  
 S70 5S 2AR.

### Our critics review the morals on display in the Tate gallery

DR NICHOLAS Tate was my history tutor at Moray House College, Edinburgh, in the 1980s, and I never understood him until I read Jake Piergies's letter (January 17). Many of us student teachers used to debate seriously whether Dr Tate could survive a class of 30 kids — and we concluded that he couldn't.

Dr Tate used to walk into a centrally heated Scottish classroom and stand at the back talking notes, keeping his trench-coat on. I kept wondering why he wasn't more interactive with the pupils, like the other teacher-trainers, and why he wasn't more relaxed in the class.

When the head of department commended my rapport with the pupils, Dr Tate responded with a criticism of our "too relaxed and laid-back relationship".

His view of history (the dead white male British Empire view) was so opposed to mine (radical black, brought up on Kenyatta, Malcolm X and Mandela) that it led to a polarisation of relationships. Part of the tragedy of our education system is that we get people like Dr Tate (who would make an excellent librarian) deciding what teachers should teach and how they should be trained. I thought he had left teaching altogether, only to get a surprise on hearing he is the Government's chief education adviser.

Dida Adi Halake,  
 Kingsdown Close,  
 London W10 6SW.

ing in the market-place and more young people registering as voters.  
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 4 Locksbrook Road,  
 Bath BA1 3EY.

WE SHOULD be teaching children how to make ethical judgments, not preparing them to remember so-called traditional principles or codes, or a set of religious teachings. You can learn all the rules laid down in the Highway Code, but this doesn't make you a safe driver.

The problems that are likely to arise from Nick Tate's initiative are illustrated all too clearly by those on the Conservative benches who support in public such appeals to uphold traditions' values, while in private they set them aside to line their own pockets with consultancies and lucrative jobs once they have given up their ministerial posts.

Ethical reasoning occurs in complex situations: it is not just the straightforward application of simple absolutes backed by authority.

This leaves us acting out of fear of retribution, rather than virtue. When we decide not to lie for fear of divine retribution, we do not act morally; we only act as though we were moral.  
 Bryan Greenham,  
 Vivenda Floresta,  
 8550 Caldas de Monchique,  
 Portugal.

THERE is an alternative to the "moralistic talk" referred to by Mary Midgley. That would be to provide examples of desirable behaviour or attitudes in teaching materials.

For example, a modern language need not only train children to go shopping, enjoy holidays, promote exports and generally be consumers or business people. It can also train them to talk to refugees, enjoy another culture, promote justice and generally be a force for good.

Mathematics is not just applicable to buying and saving but also to giving and helping. English is a medium for self-expression and can be employed to explore ideas. These are not alternatives to the National Curriculum — they are ways of delivering it. Text-book writers and syllabus designers need not be clones of our society — they can be its teachers.  
 Keith Heywood,  
 36 Narrow Lane,  
 Histon, Cambs CB4 4RD.

## When it's best not to be best

A curious technological moral lies behind Apple's problems

IT'S a tough world. After months of fretting about which computer to buy, you stump up the extra cash and go for an Apple Mac. Instantly, you're a connoisseur of the very best in information technology. And you've joined a select club to which only one in ten people with a personal computer belongs. You've even struck a blow against the dominating presence of Bill Gates and Microsoft, the company that provides the software that keeps the PC market running. You feel really good. The Mac is so easy to use, and it looks great. Then, the news starts dribbling in. Apple Computer is in trouble. Thousands of employees lose their jobs, including senior management. Healthy profits have disappeared and the company is selling off computers at a hefty discount. If Apple does survive, say the pundits, it looks likely to concentrate on corporate customers leaving the cut-throat consumer market to the dealers — and Bill Gates. Oh dear. What happens next? Will there be someone to fix your machine if it goes wrong, who will provide new software, and how much will this specialist knowledge cost as the years go by and fewer and fewer people remember that the Mac was once a personal computer too? Apple's plight is another sad tale of clever technology gone wrong. And it doesn't do much good for consumer in research and development, in technology, nor in major corporations. Why do they spend time and money creating the best technical solutions if, ultimately,

you're left holding a product that no one can be bothered with? Remember how consumers burned their fingers in the early 1980s after the three-way battle to establish a standard video tape format? The Philips 2000 format was by far and away the best system, technically, and Betamax from Sony was not that bad either. But, as we now know, VHS from Matsushita won through. A few years later, there was the tussle to dispense with the PAL broadcasting system for satellite TV in favour of the superior D-MAC (no relation) system. But Sky wouldn't have it — for justifiable commercial reasons — and D-MAC languished. Neither would Sky have the squarish, that innovative receiver developed by the ill-fated BSB for satellite broadcasting. The squarish was cleverer than Sky's conventional receiving dish, and less obstructive, but that didn't help. There will always be great technical developments that present little trouble, such as the evolution of sound production from wax cylinders to records to CDs to, eventually, solid-state mini-cubes of some sort or another. Then there are the innovations that look suspect from the outset, such as the 3D camera and Sir Clive Sinclair's C5 electric car. Corporations are only just learning that they need to sustain consumer confidence in the clever technologies they develop by talking rather than tussling. But wait for the battle to establish global mobile telecommunications. And, just remember, good guys come second.

## At the last count

SOME years ago I was seconded from my Department of Health post to the Home Office to join the project team for rebuilding Holloway Prison. I knew little about prisons but quite a lot about designing services for the mentally ill. At that time the Home Office reckoned that about half of women prisoners had mental health problems.

The project rapidly became a nightmare as the Home Office rehabilitationists and redistributionists alternately held sway over policy and the design swung between Alcatraz and Butlins. I gave up and returned to producing hospitals.

But one interesting view emerged. At my first meeting I asked the then governor the "idiot boy" question: "What would happen if the main gates of Holloway were opened wide?" Her response was enlightening: "Most of them would go back to their husbands and children — we could collect 90 per cent of them in the morning." Howard Goodman,  
 105-111 Euston Street,  
 London NW1 2EW.

WONDER if the David Rendel MP who so enthusiastically supports the Newbury bypass is the David Rendel MP who had a letter published in the Guardian's Notes and Queries on November 23 1994? That David Rendel described his gallant attempts to alleviate the road noise suffered by his constituents in East Isley, a village alongside the A24 about 10 miles north of Newbury. The Newbury bypass, supported by the other David Rendel, will, of course, attract more traffic to the A24 and cause more road noise in East Isley.

Will the real David Rendel please stand up?  
 Frank Dumbleton,  
 1 Lavender Cottages,  
 Main Street, Chilton,  
 Oxfordshire OX11 0RZ.

READ with interest Marjorie Granger's letter (January 13). My father, now 80, was born and brought up in Cumberland, and he would recite to me when I was a child, almost as a nursery rhyme: "Yan, tan, tethere, fether, mether..." Unfortunately neither he nor I can remember how to continue the count from six to 10.  
 David H Smith,  
 4 Pappard Meadow, Prestwood,  
 Gt. Missenden, Bucks HP16 0SF.



## Sex (not in the biblical sense)

THE reported use of the expressions "penis" and "semen" in the Bible Society's Contemporary English Version of the Book of Leviticus (Action-packed Bible's graceless prose for TV era drops the ark and the manger, January 16) appals me. Snob words have historically been part of the language of our common people, but wasn't this all before the Roman legions departed our shores? Yes, it's those stalwart Saxon invaders my hat goes in the air for, raping, pillaging and gifted with a coarser speech

most ordinary folk have walked in ever since.  
 Geoffrey N Armitage,  
 Church Street,  
 Dufftown, Keith,  
 Banffshire AB55.

THE proposal to reduce biblical texts to the soulless jargon of today is too appalling to contemplate. "Consider the lilies of the field; they toil not neither do they spin" — is this an improvement? "The flowers do not work?"  
 M Power,  
 Heywood Old Road,  
 Middleton, Manchester M24.

## Stage fight

WE ARE delighted that you feel, as we do, that Jeremy Isaacs is to be congratulated for letting the cameras into the Opera House (Leader, Guardian 16). But we take exception to the description of the behaviour of senior managers as portrayed in our films as "shameful". We found that agonising decisions — particularly those relating to money and staff — were the order of the day, as with any large organisation operating in the nervous nineties. The series documents a period when the books were balanced and an efficient new stage-crew contract was pushed through, and Isaacs, with some presence of Arts Council to help find an alternative home for the House during redevelopment.

Finally, whatever you think of his style, Keith Cooper would have been even more severely criticised for failing in his duty had he not dealt firmly with the problems in the box office.  
 Andrew Bethell,  
 Michael Waldman,  
 Producers, The House,  
 Double Exposure Ltd, Unit 23,  
 63 Clerkenwell Road,  
 London EC1M 5PS.

## A minefield

JOHN HUGHES of RTZ (Let-Jers, January 17) argues that no indigenous people have been forcibly removed from the land because of the operations of the Freeport copper and gold mine. Yet only last year, the Indonesian military announced that 2,000 people in the area will have to vacate their lands to make way for "development" in the vicinity of the mine.

The company is unlikely to be directly involved in this transfer of population, but it cannot evade responsibility. It is laughable for a company executive to support his arguments about the payment of due compensation with statements from the governor of Irian Jaya. As he should know, the regional administration in Jayapura has failed miserably to monitor the concerns of the indigenous people.  
 Carmel Buddardjo,  
 Secretary, The Indonesia Human Rights Campaign  
 111 Northwood Road,  
 Thornton Heath,  
 Surrey CR7 6HW.

Please include a full postal address, even on e-mailed letters, and a telephone number. We may edit letters: shorter ones are more likely to appear.

## The mood changes at the Palace

Free-spending duchesses, like directors, must be reined in

IN A FIGHT for survival, ruthlessness is all, and Buckingham Palace showed its battle readiness yesterday. Within hours of the publication of a series of allegations about the dire state of the Duchess's finances, the Palace hoisted the drawbridge on her. It made utterly clear that there will be no royal bail-out of the free-spending Duchess. Whatever the truth of yesterday's allegations, the Duchess's reputation, which has slipped steadily downwards for some time, seems poised to go into free fall. The Palace is rightly determined not to be dragged down further by her.

This all makes a sad story, but does any of it matter in the wider scheme of things? Is it a matter of public importance? Yes it is, in two ways.

First, because the split between Buckingham Palace and the Duchess shows just how tough the Palace is now compelled to be. This toughness is proof of a fear of what is at stake for the Crown. It

shows that the collapse of the royal marriages is not just a private but a public problem. The disaffected royal daughters-in-law have it in their power to ensure the monarchy in disputes with the Duchess's finances. It is increasingly clear that not even divorce will necessarily protect the Palace from prolonged public attack.

Second, the saga shows a change in the mood of the times. In their early days the royal marriages were part of the fairy-tale of the Eighties. But the glamour of the decade has worn off, and something-for-nothing is no longer fashionable. The same mood of corrective fairness which wants executive salary increases reined in also has little patience with anyone who is felt to be hitching a free ride. This national mood is for a more equitable balance of public responsibilities against private rights. And in a stakeholder society, even duchesses must give as well as take.

## A Country Diary

INVERNESS: A telephone call queried why animals had spent the night in a hut circle just north of Inverness where tracks in the snow indicated that a large number had been involved. Walking the fields later in the day I saw many tracks converging on the stones but I was not prepared for what I found. There were many tracks within the circle of stones but then, immediately next to a huge stone several feet high and across and about six inches thick, was an amazing sight. For about three quarters of an acre there were so many tracks that I could not find a single square of snow devoid of tracks or droppings. All the tracks were made by brown hares — and the altitude was too low for mountain hares — and it was obvious that large numbers of hares had been involved. Reference books mention the gatherings of brown hares have been seen in the past with up to 40 animals involved. The mystery is why such gatherings take place although one sug-

gestion is that it gives the males the chance to show off to the females. But this gathering took place with eight inches of snow on the ground and it was obvious that the hares had travelled some distance for whatever ceremony was involved. Brown hares are so mysterious that I would not be surprised if the location had something to do with the ancient hut circle but there may be a simpler explanation. If you took away the local conifer plantations from the raised mound on which the hut circle stood, there would be commanding views of the strath. This would enable hares to see each other moving towards the site and, once they were there, any predators such as foxes could be seen from a long way off. In such deep snow, hare tracks are one of the few that can be recognised but badgers are another as their short legs mean that their chests form a broad furrow between their footprints.  
 RAY COLLIER



12/1/96

Diary  
Matthew Norman

FROM Westminster comes a sign of a potentially thrilling political rehabilitation. After nine years as an MP, Ken Livingstone (who graces the basement of this page today) has been asked to represent his party, and will sit on the committee scrutinising the new Audit Bill. The Bill will increase district auditors' power of investigation, a subject of special interest to Ken: as a Camden councillor he defeated the attempt of one auditor to surcharge him, while he has recently been helping another investigate corruption within Brent Council. It is a strict truth, Ken's first appointment: "I was on the Cypriote Control Committee — you know, the South American rodent for one day." But even so, it is clearly a breakthrough. Ken refuses to become over-excited: "It's taken me nine years to get where most MPs arrive in nine months, or nine weeks," he says. "At this rate, I'll be on the Treasury Select Committee, which I apply for every time there's a vacancy, in about 2010. Still, New Ken is not blasé. "At least the auditor, unlike the cop, won't be declared extinct on the first day," he muses, "so, in a way, I suppose it's a big step up."

In a catastrophic reverse for Sir Rocco Forte, my sane and rational friend Paul Johnson, in an article supporting him in the Telegraph, the odds on Granada winning the takeover scrap have been accordingly slashed.

RATINGS triumph is celebrated at the Mirror Group's widely watched cable channel Live TV, thanks to Newsy Rabbit, the six-foot bunny currently spearheading the station's turch upmarket. News appears in the corner of the screen during news bulletins, and reacts emotionally to individual stories. "We've had a lot of complimentary calls about the bunny," says news editor Mark Hughes, "and we didn't have any calls before." This week, Kelvin McKenzie took a moment away from considering a new camera angle ("Eulimination") for the news, and gave his paw a welcome shake during a live bulletin. "Newsy Rabbit doesn't just react to the news," says Mr Hughes, "he makes the news as well."

WHITEHALL document (secret of course, in accordance with the drive for open government) has been passed to the Diary. It is the newly published Guidance on Guidance. A follow up to the best seller Guidance, it is apparently designed to help civil servants to find central guidance on a variety of topics. Even so, it makes no sense to me, and I am eagerly awaiting the sequel Guidance on Guidance on Guidance, which will make everything clear.

WITH the tacit approval of Her Majesty, the Diary is campaigning to discredit the American muck-raker Kitty Kelley in advance of her much-hyped royal biography. It is not for us to repeat groundless rumours (Prince Andrew being the Earl of Carnarvon's son, for example, or Philip suffering attacks of pancreatitis in the company of actresses) that may or may not feature in the book. Our business is to destroy Miss Kelley, and thus save the monarchy. To this end, we turn today to Poison Pen: The Unauthorised Biography of Kitty Kelley, by George Carrope. The first rumour comes from a chat between Kitty and her publisher about how she acquired an intimate conversation between Jackie Onassis and a gentleman caller. "They won't sue," I didn't ask if they'd sue. I asked where you got it. Kitty looked down at her shoes. I made it up. Her demure expression was that of a naughty little girl. They won't sue, she repeated almost imploringly. She made it up. (Is that all right, Ma'am, or do you want a harder edge?)

SOMERSET businessman just returned from Canada reports seeing the following sign in a New Brunswick hotel bedroom: "If you wish your telephone to be connected, call the receptionist."



# Out of Europe, something new

## Commentary Hugo Young

THE MOMENT is arriving when Europe could cease to be the cynic's playground. The pressure of the neuregic question can be lifted from the root-canal. There will still be much to decide when the Turin summit kicks off the 1996 Inter-Governmental Conference in March. And the relief will be only temporary. But this is a quite a turn-up. The opportunity to replace fanaticism and febrile double-talk with less convulsive assessments of the British interest is at last appearing. The question is: do politicians want to take it?

The single currency has become all that counts in the British Euro-argument. It's what Euro-phobes show their virility by abominating, what Euro-philes ultimately support, and what governing politicians are required to handle with ever less convincing verbiage. It's the touchstone issue, carrying a charge that has blown away such trivia as the opt-out the British gained at Maastricht. But now it is probably receding.

Events, for the first time, imperil it. Up to now, the sceptics have seized on every ripple in German opinion and tended to exaggerate it. Now something more inexorable is happening. The German economy is signalling that even Germany may not meet the conditions for membership of EMU. The rise in unemployment and the slowdown of growth has moved the German deficit beyond the limit, something that probably can't be remedied without further damage to eligibility for the 1999 EMU target date.

Most are in a much more agonising position. Apart from the faction which is opposed on principle, the vast majority acknowledge an unpalatable dilemma. They don't want a single currency, but they're in different degrees terrified of being left out of one. This isn't just the age-old fear of losing influence in Europe, but is based on the knowledge that, in or out, there's no escape from the effects. To keep the currency sound against a new euro, it's all too likely that even more deflation will have to be visited on the British economy. When Mr Major calls for a study of the consequences of a euro on the longer as well as the abstrainers, he is not playing politics.

In Britain, therefore, delight at the continentals' predicament is palpable. But if they face the loss of their project, then so do phobes and sceptics here, especially in the Tory party. Putting pressure on Mr Major to accept some sensible modest integration emerging from the IGC. Out loose from the super-state demons that come with EMU, the future of an enlarged Europe is — can you believe it — capable of the kind of discussion that isn't overblown in the first half-sentence by screaming political point-scoring. Leaders, who in quite large part agree, could be liberated to conduct an argument that has a little bit more to do with the real world than with kow-towing to party secretaries.

# Dead women who suit the news agenda



Natasha Walter

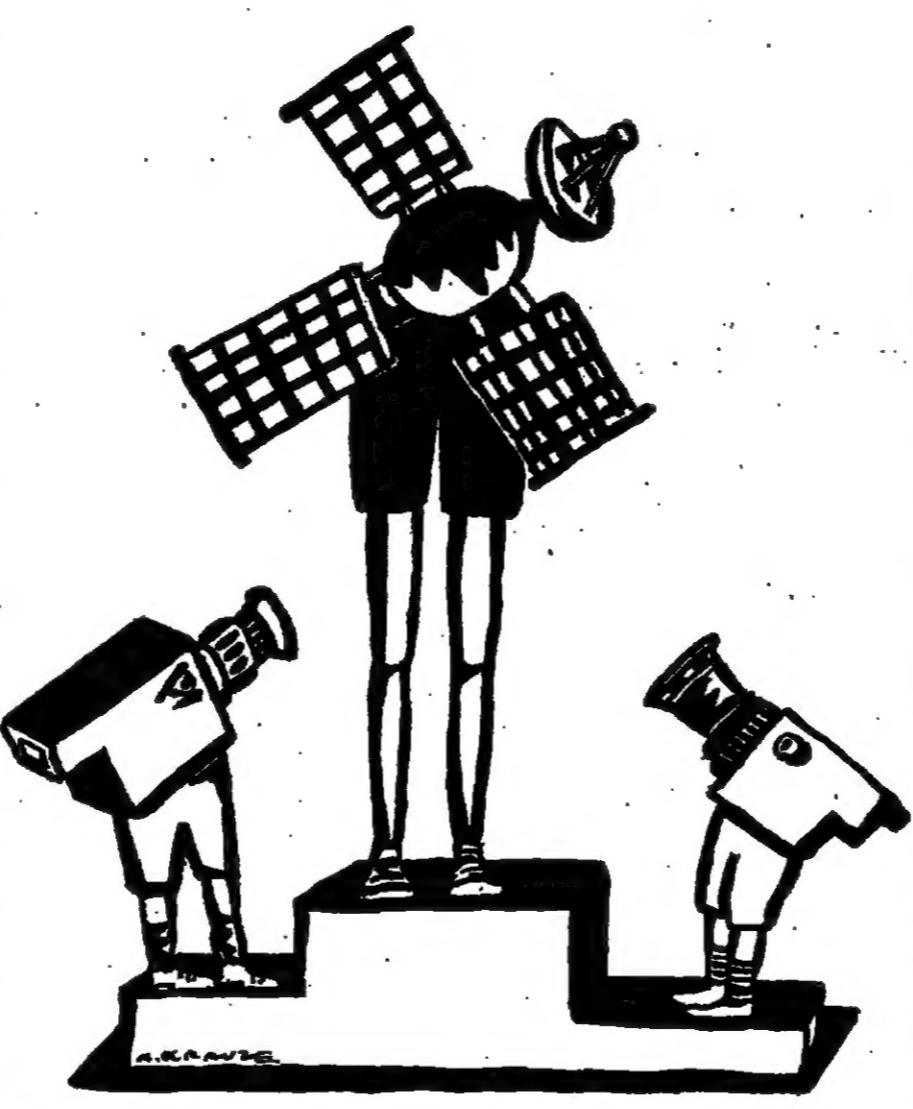
DEAD women tell tales. Through the tragedies that we choose to talk about and the ways we talk about them, we don't just grieve, we also force myths that seek to make sense of their deaths. But how much sense are we making?

When Johanne Masheder's body was found in a ravine in Thailand the Daily Mail, the newspaper that has the fastest growing readership in Britain, asked, "Why do young girls risk their lives on the back-pack trail?" Even this newspaper felt bound to say that her death "highlights the vulnerability of women abroad". Last week a holidaying British man was murdered in Bangalore; I seem to have missed all the articles in the tabloids and broadsheets that asked why young boys risk their lives on the tourist trail or told us that his death highlighted the vulnerability of men abroad.

## David Elstein wants to see sports authorities able to negotiate television rights without government interference, regulation or special treatment of the BBC

# Free the skies for sport

THE BBC derived best when the market in sports rights was non-existent. Sport has always been one of its cheapest programme genres. Under the new market conditions, it has enlarged its sports budget and maintained its level of sports transmission. But it argues that the escalation of sports costs puts it under greater pressure than any other broadcaster.



As it happens, his belief is mistaken. News Corporation and its co-bidders are seeking broadcasting rights — including terrestrial and satellite television — for the whole of Europe, as the only way to get round the cartel-bidding behaviour of the EBU, the alliance of public-service broadcasters in Europe. If the bid succeeds, rights will be sold on to individual territories, and it is overwhelmingly likely that one or more terrestrial channels in the UK will continue to cover the Games.

To that argument, there are several replies. The BBC has a guaranteed income of £1.7 billion a year from the television licence fee. It chooses to spend a quarter of that on radio. Last year, it launched a fifth radio service, at an annual cost of £35 million, enough to pay for Formula One, the FA Cup, the Ryder Cup and much more besides.

It is an unfair and undeserved penalty. I have heard politicians describe sports bodies generally as third-rate. Well, they are not above criticism: we are all on a learning curve. But I have yet to see a convincing argument that Parliament knows better than sports authorities how to make sense of their rights negotiations. Any artificial manipulation of the TV rights market which might drive up

gate prices is simply making the paying sports fan at the ground subsidise the non-paying fan in the armchair. "Listed" events were first introduced in the 1990s, when ITV started in just one or two regions, when the commercial value of sports rights on TV had not been established, and when it seemed reasonable to ensure that key events remained available purely in transmitter terms, to all TV

households. In 1990, the law changed so that a reduced list of eight events would not be allowed to go on an exclusive basis to pay-per-view television (but not subscription services). David Mellor is now arguing that subscription channels like Sky Sports also be denied the right to exclusive coverage of listed events. He attributes this change of heart to his belief that News Corporation is bidding £12

million for exclusive satellite coverage of the Olympic Games. All bodies warmly welcome the huge increase in revenue, coverage and bargaining power that the creation of a true market in television rights has brought them. They can all see the disadvantages in the proposed amendments to the new Broadcasting Bill.

## The Party's not over

### Ken Livingstone sympathises with Arthur Scargill but thinks he could have won his battle for socialism within Labour

ARTHUR SCARGILL'S decision to leave the Labour Party will come as no surprise to anyone who saw how depressed and frustrated he was at the last Labour Party conference, when he failed to reverse the decision on dropping Clause 4. It must seem to many that he has never before had a leader in such complete control of all the levers of power. Policy is made on the hoof by spin doctors and there is no real consultation with anyone outside the magic circle of the leader's retinue.

But like most of the British media, Arthur has paid too much attention to the outpourings of the spin doctors and has failed to analyse the real balance of power inside the Labour Party. Tony Blair was given a valuable history lesson at last year's Labour Party conference when he faced defeat on the vote committing Labour to a 24-hour minimum wage. In the classic pattern that Labour leaders from Ramsey MacDonald on would have recognised, the campaign agenda was fixed at

a meeting between representatives of the trade-union leaders and Tony Blair. In exchange for their support for a minimum wage, it was made clear to them that there would be no further reduction in the size of the trade-union vote at Labour conferences at any time in the future. It is when one looks at the three main components of the Labour Party that it becomes harder to understand Arthur's decision to leave. TGWU, the GMB and Unison are the three biggest trade-union affiliates. They have all made clear their support for a minimum wage, full employment and the defence of the welfare state. Unlike previous times, Labour's trade unions are speaking with one voice and for clearly socialist economic policies. There has been much talk that the 120,000 Labour Party members who have

joined since Tony Blair became leader would change the nature of local Labour parties. Yet when these new members cast their postal ballots for Labour's NEC last year, the votes for the left candidates increased by over 50 per cent, much as for those identified with the leadership. Inside the Parliamentary Labour Party, though there was a massive campaign of arm-twisting by the so-called modernisers to purge the Shadow Cabinet of what they dismissively called old Labour traditionalists (eg Joan Lester), when the votes were counted all those who had been targeted for removal saw a massive increase in their votes. The modernisers' slate of Blairite candidates failed to get more than a third of MPs' support.

The modernisers' bungled attempt to get rid of TGWU secretary Bill Morris, and the way they have alienated much party opinion by their rudeness towards (and heckling of) Rodney Bickerstaffe at the special Clause 4 conference, show how little they understand or even, I suspect, like the Labour Party. They talk privately about the Project, as they call their plan to transform the Labour Party into a pale imitation of the American Democratic Party. Labour will come to power at a time of worsening economic performance. The modernisers' belief that they can "think the unthinkable about the welfare state" and try to repeat the strategy of President Chirac in France is doomed to fail. I believe that within a few months of taking office, Tony Blair will face the stark choice of governing with the consent of the Labour Party and its supporters in the trade unions, or finding himself in a minority in his own Cabinet. At that stage real politics will come into play.

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by Diary

The writer is MP for Brent East







of the gns

Thursday January 18 1996

Lloyds answers critics with new-look plan, this page Watchdogs of the power industry have failed, page 12

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer Telephone: 0171-239-9610 Fax: 0171-833-4456

Finance Guardian

Government twists in debt trap

Larry Elliott and Richard Thomas

STAGNANT wages and the drift to part-time work are playing havoc with the public finances and threatening to push government borrowing above £30 billion this year...

full year would be £29 billion, a £7 billion improvement on the £35.9 billion racked up in 1994-95. But David Coleman, economist at Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, said it was unrealistic to expect the public finances to be £7 billion better in the final three months of this financial year...

ceeds and lower interest payments will help to bring the PSBR back on track. Mr Coleman said: "The numbers simply don't add up. The Treasury has badly misjudged the outlook for disposable income which has been hit by structural changes in the labour market and the lack of confidence restricting wage demand."

claiming benefit dropped by 7,500 in December to 2,236,500, leaving the unemployment rate unchanged at 8.0 per cent. However, the separate Labour Force Survey - which collects unemployment data on an internationally agreed basis - found that all the jobs created in recent months were part-time.

the number of full-time jobs fell by 9,000 while part-time posts were up by 50,000. Unemployment on the LFS measure fell by 15,000 in the three months to November, compared to a 47,000 drop in the claimant count. Joblessness is now 228,000 higher on the internationally-accepted yardstick than on the benefit measure.

ernment getting close to its PSBR target, they still believe interest rates will be cut over the next couple of months to keep the economy moving. Mr Clarke met the Governor of the Bank of England, Eddie George, yesterday afternoon, but City analysts said an immediate reduction in the cost of borrowing was unlikely unless today's data on retail sales and prices pointed to further weakness in the economy.

Notebook Parenting help for infant technology



Edited by Alex Brummer

DESPITE some well publicised court cases, the relationship between banks and small and medium sized enterprises in the UK appears to be improving. As interest rates have fallen, the margin over base rates charged by the banks - although too high at 3 to 4 per cent - has, at least, remained constant.

France and perhaps even the US than there was a month ago. The 10 basis point cut in German market rates reflects this to some extent. And despite the Governor running up the flag over wage costs, the latest earnings figures suggest that labour cost pressures remain subdued - Vauxhall notwithstanding.

Germans likely to stick on repo cut

THE Bundesbank eased a key money market interest rate yesterday but analysts warned the move was unlikely to herald an immediate reduction in interest rates in the wider German economy.

at which it provides short-term lending to the money markets - from 3.75 per cent to 3.65 per cent, ahead of expectations.

to 5 and 3 per cent respectively - though there are still hopes that they will be reduced in the spring. Those hopes have not been dampened by comments from a number of Bundesbank council members, hinting that the German central bank may still have room for manoeuvre on rates.

Bank Julius Baer's chief economist, Gerhard Grebe, said: "The Bundesbank will want to see the impact of that [December] rate cut before taking any further steps."

Economic growth in Germany has slowed recently, leading to pressure for a further cut in borrowing costs to help get the economy back on a growth path.

Chemist's shares soar on £500m sale talks

Ian King

LOYDS Chemists, Britain's second biggest pharmacist chain, is expected to be sold next week to rival drug group Unichem for just under £500 million.

and Tesco, all but ruled themselves out of the running. Last night, a leading City analyst said it would "make sense" if Unichem was the bidder, as the two companies were very complementary businesses.

A price tag of £4 a share would value chairman and founder Allen Lloyd's 7.5 per cent stake in the Warwickshire-based company at around £36 million.

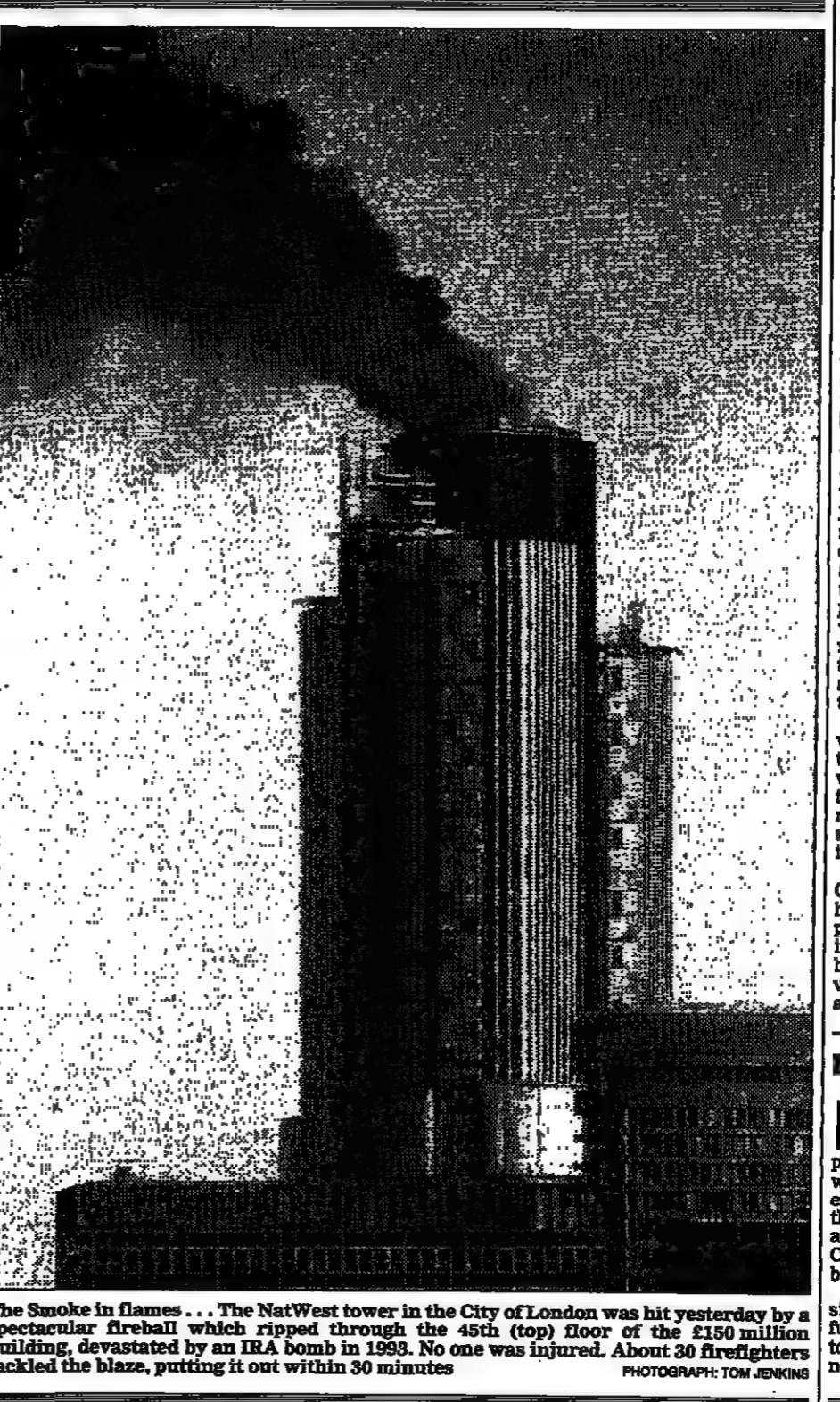
Lloyd's answers critics

Pauline Springett

LOYD'S of London yesterday published the first year regulatory plan in its 300-year history and insisted it had tackled all the criticisms of its system made by a Commons Select Committee last year.

man of Lloyd's regulatory board. Yesterday, Sir Alan said he was confident that the new plan addressed all the committee's concerns in full.

The main plank is to register all the insurance market's key senior staff and then to monitor and discipline them closely. Transgressors will be dealt with by warnings, fines and even expulsion from the market.



The Smoke in flames... The NatWest tower in the City of London was hit yesterday by a spectacular fireball which ripped through the 45th (top) floor of the £160 million building, devastated by an IRA bomb in 1993. No one was injured. About 30 firefighters tackled the blaze, putting it out within 30 minutes. PHOTOGRAPH: TOM JENKINS

Tesco winter sales buoyant but Body Shop issues profit warning

Roger Cove

TESCO emphasised its pole position among UK supermarkets with news yesterday of buoyant sales this winter, including what chairman Sir Ian Macrae described as "the best Christmas ever".

wine and Christmas gift items selling strongly. He pointed out that the record sales coincided with the first Christmas that Tesco had not advertised on television. Instead, the company relied on direct marketing, with its Clubcard scheme.

Maxwell jury deliberations head for the record books

Don Ashburn

THE Maxwell trial was heading into the record books last night after a second day's deliberations were suspended because of a juror's illness.

instruct a jury of 11 to continue its deliberations. Alternatively, he may suspend the deliberations until she has recovered.

Gung-ho culture pays out highest average salary in corporate Britain

Patrick Donovan, Chris Barrie and Paul Murphy

BRITAIN'S highest paid director, Charles "Copperfingers" Vincent - who was yesterday revealed by the Guardian as earning at least £16 million a year - runs the world's most bizarre management training programme.

Just 48 staff are employed at its luxuriously appointed headquarters in Winchester, complete with gilt chandeliers and high-backed leather chairs on the dealing floor.

School-dinner ladies lose right-to-pension test case

Margaret Hughes Personal Finance Editor

HUNDREDS of thousands of former public sector workers whose jobs have been or will be privatised through the Government's Compulsory Competitive Tender (CCT) scheme, yesterday lost their automatic right to a comparable pension.

because they earned less than £15,000 a year. The judge ruled that the European Council's "Acquired Rights Directive" excluded pension rights and required member states to provide protection only for pension contributions accrued up to the date of privatisation.

Table with 4 columns: Country, Bank, Rate. Includes Australia 2.00, France 7.42, Italy 2.385, Singapore 2.13, etc.

Supplied by NatWest Bank (excluding Indian rupee and Israeli shekel).

Don Claxton



# Watchdogs with marginal utility

The regulators of the electricity, water, gas and telecoms utilities were meant to ensure that consumers got a fair share of the benefits of privatisation. Yet the watchdogs are widely seen to have failed. Today GREGORY PALAST, a leading US expert on regulation, challenges the electricity watchdog and architect of UK regulation, Professor Stephen Littlechild, to justify a system which, he argues, is too weak and too secretive to take on the corporate raiders now dominating the power industry

Dear Professor,

THE typical British homeowner pays 9p for a kilowatt-hour of electricity, double the sum paid in the US. Britain has chosen to emulate America's system of electricity for profit, but rejects basic consumer protections the US developed to keep these service monopolies in check. I write from the trenches, 20 years on regulation's front line as special investigator for American government. I admit that America's regulatory arm has often failed to curb utility waste, incompetence, and profiteering. Yet, although the UK suffers even higher prices, you are reported as saying your method of regulation has "achieved a great deal for customers".

If you believe the British pay a bargain price for electricity, read no further. If not, then I can share the lessons of my one hundred price and racketeering investigations, many aimed at the US companies seizing benchmarks in the British energy market. Given that your utilities collect double the US price, where does all that money go? Of the £14 billion National Grid charges annually for moving power, more than a third represents operating profits. Shareholders consistently garner returns of 26 per cent, triple the profit permitted in the US.

Power generation accounts for three-quarters of the UK's electricity bill. PowerGen and National Power own 90 per cent of the nation's capacity (versus no more than 2 per cent of the US market controlled by any one company). Under the system followed by Offer — the Office of Electricity Regulation — consumers must pay every power seller the highest bid accepted. We have PowerGen and NP "win your daily bid to supply

electricity, day after day. Notwithstanding this plain evidence of monopoly abuse, Offer insists that there is no need to limit profits. Instead, your government exhorts the public to have faith that the invisible hand of the marketplace will shield them from pillaging monopoly. But after five years of a privately controlled system, the score stands at Monopoly, 8; Invisible Hand, 0.

The complete failure of competition among generators has not deterred Offer from announcing plans to unleash the regional electricity companies in 1998 to compete for domestic power distribution services. The truth is, no one can tell me how a household can get around the monopoly stranglehold represented by the single wire between the house and the street.

Despite all the hoopla about market forces, the public still must turn to you, the regulator. US government agencies and customers field a battalion of nearly 50,000 experts and support staff to carefully comb over the cost records of America's utilities. Compare this to your little band of 500 — Offer, Ofel and Ofgas combined — none with long-time regulatory experience.

Offer doesn't stand a chance, especially against the accounting magicians that the new owners have brought across the water. Last year Swab's new American owner paid \$60 million (\$39 million) to settle tax claims on a scheme which took a score of US government experts 10 years to unravel.

In 1990, Swab's new finance officer successfully fended off US criminal charges of fraudulent accounting; complexity was the company's key defence. In 20 years of investigations, I've identified easily £10 billion in account-book creativity used to inflate "costs" to justify high prices. We have 50,000 utility police in the US because we need them.



Power without responsibility... Britain's secretive regulatory system does nothing to stop electricity being sold at twice the price of that in the strictly-policed US PHOTOGRAPH: PAUL BARKER

Let me not bash US companies alone. A British utility executive bluntly told me: "We don't give Littlechild all the information he asks for. It's a little game we play." Matters will only get worse for you by the end of the current corporate mating season, with water companies buying regional electric and awaiting Monopolies and Mergers Commission blessing, the generating monopolies swallowing their distributors.

Your press releases assure the nation that you can keep utility divisions apart by "ring-fencing," yet Offer has no enforcement mechanism for this enormous job. The

US has buildings filled with accountants whose work is to unravel the incestuous dealings between subsidiaries of large utilities.

"We regulate price not profit, so we don't need all those people," one of Offer's true believers told me. Despite protests to the contrary, Offer does regulate profit. Your price formula, "RPI-X," is exactly the same formula as used in the US. The mysterious "X" factor gauges cost and "return to shareholders," jargon for a profit target. Why then, should virtually identical profit-target formulas produce prices in Britain double those in the US?

How did Offer find itself lost on this high-profit, high-price path? The answer lies in Britain's unjustifiably secretive regulatory process.

Offer announces price decisions without explanation. No one knows how you verify a utility's claimed costs or determine what you call an "adequate" profit. Do you lock yourself in a candle-lit room and read the entrails of a redundant utility worker? In the US, regulators set target profits only after the utility publicly opens its books to the regulator, independent investigators and any customer. Finance analysts like myself open all our data to the public, and answer days of questions on each dollar of cost accepted, each dollar of profit permitted.

As in any democratic process, not everyone applauds the results; I rarely do. But democracy has its charms: lower prices. By contrast, Britons have no idea how you settle on the "adequate" profit figure — you won't even tell us the magic figure itself. What experts do you consult, or what spirits call up?

On the cost side of the formula, once again Offer draws the shades. Do you simply swallow the meagre cost figures doled out to you by the

utility executives? Do you have faith that the newly-landed American executives will give you complete and unbiased information?

Open Offer's doors to the public and rates will fall. No reputable finance expert would stand up in public hearings and call the industry's 23 per cent average profit merely "adequate" when the proper term is "exorbitant".

IN PRACTICE, the industry equates efficiency with eliminating jobs. Under Offer's RPI-X formula, consumers pay prices based on a 1990 workforce of 143,000. How did you determine that not one of the 30,000 terminated workers is needed for safety or service?

Why not open the records for public review — or is safety another state secret? In the US, citizens can and do challenge utility service-force reductions. By letting shareholders pocket the wages of terminated workers and the value of repairs delayed, Offer makes cuts in safety spending irresistibly profitable.

Offer's reward for slashing repairs and staffing makes the Government's rush to privatise nuclear plants particularly chilling.

In the film *The Magic Christian*, businessmen in suits and bowler hats dived into a large vat of bovine urine to retrieve dollar bills. The parallel to Britain's frenzied selling of its utilities to Yanis is not exact; in the film, the businessmen knew what they were diving into.

What do you know of the American firms devouring your electric system? Although the press reported allegations of their incompetence, even criminality, Offer has never sought to investigate nor institute hearings. Why this fear of public debate? Why limit the investigation of would-be foreign owners to weighing wallets?

The very weak Central & South West bought Seaboard, the US Justice Department initiated an investigation of the company's involvement in an alleged conspiracy to monopolise the Texas power market. As the UK's design-

nated protector, don't you have a few questions for CSW?

Recently, a French court jailed Grenoble's former mayor for taking a \$2.6 million bribe from Lyonnaise des Eaux, now buying into Britain. In 1988, Swab's US parent pleaded guilty to illegally funding political campaigns. Does your government comprehend what happens to the political system when money meets monopoly?

Free-market theory tells us that competition, not government, protects the public best. I am not a cheerleader for state bureaucracy. I earned my credentials at the feet of Nobel laureate Milton Friedman, who grew visibly ill at the mere mention of the word "government". But years of digging through cooked account books, bogus cost claims and the occasional burnt building has led me to conclude that regulation is a war between the monopoly and the monopolised. And war is hell, not theory.

Gregory Palast

**TOMORROW: "The innovations in Britain have proved a model for the rest of the world."**  
**STEPHEN LITTLECHILD defends the regulatory system**

Electricity	Gas	Water
Regulator: professor Stephen Littlechild and staff at Offer Industry: 12 regional electricity companies and 2 generators in England and Wales, 2 generators and distributors in Scotland, National Grid, nuclear generation. Customers: 23 million	Regulator: Clara Spottiswoode and staff at Ofgas Industry: British Gas and new suppliers lining up to compete for domestic customers from 1998. Customers: 18 million	Regulator: Ian Byatt and staff at Ofwat Industry: 10 water and sewerage companies, and about 20 smaller water-only companies in England and Wales. Customers: 57 million

## The Underside

Dan Atkinson

WORD reaches us that mention of the Bank of England's vertically challenged head of "human resources", Roy Lecky-Thompson, triggers a Herbert Lom-style twitch among senior staff at the Old Lady. Mr Lecky-Thompson was wooed from the private sector with a five-year contract and a gargantuan salary, but his management-speak and flow diagrams are now viewed, rather like the ERM experiment, as something of an unfortunate mistake. As one official, speaking through gritted teeth, put it: "Only three years and eleven months to go".

TOP management at Asda demands that office telephones be answered quickly, so imagine the anger of an executive (anonymous but very, very high up) when he dialled an internal number which rang dozens of times before a worker reluctantly picked it up, and then with a surly "yeah?" The boss exploded: "Do you know who I am, young man?" To which the young man replied: "No. Why, do you know who I am?" Boss: "Well, no. Young man: 'Thank God for that'. And rang off. This lad could go far.

MARGARET Beckett has inevitably slid a notch or two down the greasy pole since the heady days of the Labour Party's leadership election. But the opposition trade and industry spokesman has a strange way of battling back into the lime-light. On January 10, she said poor trade figures "underlined the need for a Labour government com-



mitted to investment, employment and a sustained recovery". The next day, stagnant factory production data "underlined the need for a Labour government committed to investment, employment and...". Hello, hello? Are you still there?

MARKS & Spencer, we hear, wasted no time in moving on to the Next Big Thing after Christmas. It celebrated Twelfth Night by displaying non-cross buns for sale.

MEANWHILE, Body Shop is gearing itself up for February 14. Living up to its name, Body Shop is promoting a recipe of oils aimed at Valentine's Day LOVERS (the company's capitals) in need of "a gentle, slow and sensuous massage". Wash your hands to "cleanse off negative energies" (see, then begin, perhaps using Ylang Ylang oil, which has "a reputation for helping frigidity and impotence". Not a massage expert? Find out more in *The Body Shop Book*, a snip at £16.99. You'll LOVE it.

ESTATE agent Strutt & Parker has seized on the faint stirrings in the housing market. The firm has issued a

communiqué proclaiming London and the country at large could be in line for a "mini-boom" following the payment of expected bumper new-year bonuses to City high-flyers. "Many bonuses of six figures and more will find their way into the property market this spring, our prediction is that by March it will be the bankers and brokers who will be our priority applicants." Perhaps. But things may have changed quite dramatically. One broker of our acquaintance has recently splashed out on a second abode — a beach hut on the North Kent coast. This may not be quite what £250k has in mind. The hut cost £700 to build and the site £25. But I did have to splash out on a couple of hurricane lamps, says our greed-crazed young achiever.

THOSE medical experts hired by the drinks industry-sponsored Portman Group — at present grappling with the need to convince the world that alcoholic fizzy pop is not really aimed at underage drinkers — can be thanked in the aftermath of booze-saturated Yuletide for uncovering some relief-inducing statistics about drinking. Those of us who thought the sauce would eventually pickle the little grey cells are comforted in the latest issue of *The Review of Alcohol Research* by the indication that moderate drinking over the long term can actually improve cognitive functioning. But the Portman Group's magazine does admit a downside: "Consuming an alcoholic drink while eating a meal containing a large quantity of fat is a highly effective way of taking in more energy than one needs and thus becoming fat oneself." All the medical research in the world, it seems, can't wish away the beer gut.

## News in brief

### Builder sacks chief and seeks inquiry

SHARES in Wainhomes, the Chester-based housebuilder, collapsed yesterday after the company announced that it had sacked its chief executive, Ron Smith, and that it had asked the police to investigate "valuation irregularities" at its northern division. The company insisted that the two events were not related. It revealed, however, that it faced one-off costs of around £2 million as a result of the irregularities and also warned that profits for the year were likely to be "materially below the market's current expectations". Wainhomes' shares fell 41p to 68p on the news, wiping around £25 million off the company's market value. — *Ian King*

### Aid for jobless mandarins

A SCHEME to help find work for an unprecedented number of top civil servants losing their jobs through government cuts was launched yesterday. Redundancies among senior officials, who earn up to £70,000, have reached "crisis" levels and have shattered their careers, according to the First Division Association (FDA) which represents the officials. The FDA has joined forces with a management consultancy to provide a "Prospects Register" for around 1,000 top officials including policy advisers, lawyers, economists, statisticians, and accountants who, by April, will have lost their job through cuts in Whitehall. FDA general secretary Elizabeth Symons said: "Suddenly a large number of these people are having to leave their jobs from their mid-forties". — *Richard Norton-Taylor*

### Pru reports sales fall

PRUDENTIAL, the UK's largest life insurer, yesterday reported a 3 per cent fall in worldwide sales for annual premium life and pension products to £500 million, with single premium sales down by 11 per cent to £4.5 billion. UK annual premiums decreased 8 per cent to £245 million. UK single premiums also dropped by 8 per cent, to £2.03 billion. General Accident's life operation, which has acquired that of Provident Mutual, reported a 26 per cent fall in new life annual premiums to £33.6 million. New pensions single premiums rose by 33 per cent to £211.6 million, while new life single premiums climbed 62 per cent to £883.1 million. — *Pauline Springett*

### Bank helps small firms

BRITAIN was failing to get the most out of the entrepreneurship in smaller firms, Howard Davies, deputy governor of the Bank of England said last night. Mr Davies, presenting the Bank's third annual report on the financing of small firms, said relationships between smaller companies and their banks had improved. However, the Bank planned a number of initiatives including training in financial and management skills, venture and other finance and monitoring the effectiveness of the Government's Business Link network. — *Celia Weston*

# This month's Clearance Offer.

Here's your chance to pick up a new phone for just 99p in our super stock clearance spectacular. We have limited supplies of new Mitsubishi MT-9 phones with full manufacturer's one year warranty to clear for only 99p each. No catches. No hidden extras. And we'll even include FREE connection to the Vodafone LowCall Tariff plus a FREE in-car adaptor worth £19.99. Simply phone us with your credit card details and we'll deliver your phone within 4 working days. But hurry. At these prices it has to be first come first served.

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سكان الامل



Tennis

Doubting Henman slides to defeat

David Irvine in Melbourne

TIM HENMAN still lacks the conviction that there is nothing as a lost cause. Yesterday the 21-year-old British No. 2 failed miserably in his attempt to follow a convincing victory over the Czech Petr Korda here at the Australian Open with another at Jonas Bjorkman's expense. Long before the 87-minute match ended with the score 6-1, 6-3, 6-2 to the Swede, it was painfully evident that Henman had no belief in his ability to win. "Everything I tried to do, he had an answer for. I know now I have to be more consistent."

coach, was at a loss to know what to do. This was an opponent who normally grinds out the points, and who is not phased by McEnroe's new-found aggression, only towards the end did he make a stand, denying McEnroe seven match points before the axe fell. In Henman's case an eventful first game, in which he was foot-faulted twice, double-faulted twice and finally broken down after nine minutes, set an ominous pattern. By the close he had held his serve only four times in 12 games. Unable to dictate at the net as he had against Korda, he let his inexperience be all too apparent. Bjorkman's volleying in particular was on a far higher plane, and even in the longer rallies the Swede usually had the last word. However, even Bjorkman's advance ordered about comforted to the painted array of Swedish supporters who had descended on Flinders Park for what they hoped would be an early birthday celebration but instead became Stefan Edberg's two-times Australian Open champion who will be 30 tomorrow, was beaten on his final appearance not only by a qualifier but by a man even older than himself. Jean-Philippe Fleurian, having shocked himself at winning 6-4, 2-6, 4-6, 6-2, 6-3,



Friends again... Tarango, left, and Courier shake hands at the end

More tantrums from Tarango in all-American dispute

JEFF TARANGO, banned from this summer's Wimbledon after storming off court last year and accusing the umpire of bias, challenged officialdom again at the Australian

Open, writes David Irvine. He shouted at the umpire, asking why action was being taken against Jim Courier, his fellow-American and friend, for flinging his racket and swearing.

"I was just asking him how many times someone has to do that before they get warned," Tarango explained later. Neither player was censured. Courier won 7-5, 6-7, 6-4, 6-3.

Racing

Maguire takes Sunday mount on Montelado

Ron Cox

ADRIAN MAGUIRE, unable to secure the amount on Danoli at Leopardstown on Sunday, has emerged as the favourite rider for another top Irish hurdler returning from injury. Maguire yesterday agreed to ride Montelado in the AIG (Euros) Irish Champion Hurdle and again at Cheltenham. Pat Flynn, trainer of Montelado, turned to Maguire after Richard Dunwoody and Charlie Swan, who have both ridden the horse before, were unclaimed for Balahar and Hotel Minella respectively. Maguire's agent Dave Roberts said: "Adrian was keen to ride Montelado and he has an agreement with Mr Flynn to partner the horse on Sunday and at Cheltenham. Montelado has not run over hurdles since last year's Champion Hurdle, in which he finished ninth on his only start of the season. Wins on the Flat in the autumn signalled a return to form, but attempts to resurrect his jumping career this campaign have so far been frustrated by minor setbacks. Tony McCoy, who was also passed over for the ride on Danoli, continued his rapid rise to the top when he won his first century of winners on Amber Valley at Nottingham yesterday. Currently 18 winners clear at the top of the jockeys' table in only his second season in Britain, McCoy can extend his lead with the help of Sunley Bay (2-20) at Taunton today. The Martell Grand National, to be run on March 30, will fall into line with the Derby by switching from the traditional overnight declaration of runners to a 48-hour Thursday deadline. Celtic Swing remains among the reserves for the Dubai World Cup, due to be run three days before the Grand National, after connections conceded they are unable to commit the horse to the race. The French Derby winner looked sure to make the 14-strong line-up when Japanese horse Taiki Blitzard was scratched because he would not be ready by March 27. But the organising committee have decided to select Australia's Danewam as he is a certain starter. The weights for the William Hill Lincoln Handicap were announced yesterday and sponsors make the Neville Callaghan-trained Tarawa (Set 4b) 12-1 favourite. The Mark Johnston-trained Celestial Key and Decorated Hero, from the John Gosden stable, are joint top-weights on the 10lb for the Doncaster race on March 23.

Taunton with form guide

Table with 2 columns: Race number and horse name. Includes races 1.20, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 13.00, 13.10, 13.20, 13.30, 13.40, 13.50, 14.00, 14.10, 14.20, 14.30, 14.40, 14.50, 15.00, 15.10, 15.20, 15.30, 15.40, 15.50, 16.00, 16.10, 16.20, 16.30, 16.40, 16.50, 17.00, 17.10, 17.20, 17.30, 17.40, 17.50, 18.00, 18.10, 18.20, 18.30, 18.40, 18.50, 19.00, 19.10, 19.20, 19.30, 19.40, 19.50, 20.00, 20.10, 20.20, 20.30, 20.40, 20.50, 21.00, 21.10, 21.20, 21.30, 21.40, 21.50, 22.00, 22.10, 22.20, 22.30, 22.40, 22.50, 23.00, 23.10, 23.20, 23.30, 23.40, 23.50, 24.00, 24.10, 24.20, 24.30, 24.40, 24.50, 25.00, 25.10, 25.20, 25.30, 25.40, 25.50, 26.00, 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Soccer

Fair stands the wind for France '98

David Lacey

THE next England coach will need to move quickly if he is to begin the task of qualifying for the 1998 World Cup by missing the bus. The operation opens in Moldova on September 1 with the Premiership programme in its infancy and the players still shaking off their summer stiffness.

get a satisfactory result in Chistman. That means it is even more important for Venables to produce a team who will make sufficient progress in Euro '96 to establish themselves as serious contenders to reach France in 1998.

England's matches are nicely spaced out and their away games have been scheduled for weekends, with only the visit to Poland on May 31 falling outside the domestic season.

Next season England will tackle the problem head-on, with Poland due at Wembley on October 9 followed by Italy on February 12 1997, with a trip to Georgia in November in between.

England's chances against Italy will depend partly on the coach getting together a full squad for the sort of Year training session Venables is having at Bisham Abbey next week. Those chances might be improved further by getting all but the final of the 1996-97 League Cup out of the way by the end of this year.

The return fixtures in Poland and Italy, where England will complete their qualifying programme, may well

decide whether they will cross the Channel in the summer of 1998. The Italians do not usually face such potentially awkward opponents at the last hurdle.

Scots take weekend route and open with a burst of awaydays

FA CUP THIRD-ROUND REPLAYS

Stockport County 2, Everton 3

Ebbrell has final word

Stephen Brierley

STOCKPORT, long renowned for its ales, still boasts some of the cheapest beer in the country. For much of last night it served a pint of number 10 which would be sunk with unremitting joy and relief. But in the end, and very cruelly, sorrows needed to be drowned.

The FA Cup holders, a goal down in the 22nd minute, laboured amid all kinds of terrible trouble mostly of their own making before eventually striking twice in as many minutes in the second half through Ferguson and Stuart.

Manchester City 5, Leicester City 0

Creaney seals a Moss Side rout

Ian Ross

IF ONLY Manchester City could play Leicester City every week. This was absurdly easy for the home side, the problem being now that the club's long-suffering supporters will expect a performance like this in every game.

A replay which, on paper at least, was fraught with danger turned out to be a stroll that lent credence to the theory that Manchester City's side will usually beat a good one from the First Division.

Goals are something of collectors' items on Moss Side so the goal was uncanny in the 19th minute when a second was conjured out of thin air by the sure-footed Kinkladze.

After picking out the ball deep inside his own half, the wait-like midfielder ran 60 yards before steering a sweet shot just inside a post. It was marvellous improvisation but without some reprehensible defending it would not have been possible.

Thereafter Manchester City considered flirting with disaster — they always do — but time after time Leicester arrived in the penalty area only to lose sight of their objective.

Tottenham 5

Teddy blunts Bulls

Paul Weaver

SPURS dismissed Hereford with a flourish that mocked the competitive 1-1 draw in the original tie at Edgar Street, with Teddy Sheringham scoring a hat-trick and Chris Armstrong a double.

Sheringham's treble was the first by a Spur since Ronny Rosenthal's in last season's FA Cup tie at Southampton. Spurs, perhaps, are one of those famous runs.

Hereford 1

Bull dogs luckless Birmingham

Derek Lawrenson

AFTER six games without a victory since taking the helm, Darren Ferguson's opener through his substitute Jonathan Hunt five minutes into the second half.

Weston, who Fry thought would be "terrified" of playing in front of a full house at Molineux, or the Dutchman Gremienk, who has hardly been able to walk for the past fortnight owing to a swollen right ankle.

Then Bull flicked on to Ferguson, who advanced 15 paces before firing a 20-yard shot that Gremienk ought to have saved. Indeed, in terms of an excuse, he did not have a leg to stand on.

The goal raised the tempo of a high-octane match still further and Robbie Hart used his yellow card almost as often as his whistle; there were six bookings in the first half.

Wolverhampton Wanderers 2, Birmingham City 1

Heading for Wembley... Chris Armstrong glimpsed the Twin Towers last night with two goals in Spurs' runaway win

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Hammers swoop for Romanian

Russell Thomas

WEST HAM have given the opportunity to revitalize his unhappy English career with a £1.5 million move across London from Tottenham.

Shrewsbury ordered to play at home

Ian Ross

SHREWSBURY TOWN yesterday lost the chance of the biggest pay-day in their history — an estimated £150,000 — when they were told that the FA Cup fourth-round tie against Liverpool must be staged at their own tiny Gay Meadow ground.

The hard-up Second Division club had wanted to switch the game to Anfield but without the permission of the Football Association, which said that to do so would set an unwanted and unnecessary precedent.

Shrewsbury won the right to play the Merseyside by overcoming Fulham 2-1 in a third-round replay on Tuesday night.

With Gay Meadow's capacity reduced to only 8,000 in the wake of the Taylor report, Shrewsbury can expect to collect no more than £25,000 from the tie.

Had the game been played on Merseyside before a crowd in excess of 35,000 paying substantially higher ticket prices, their reward would have topped £150,000.

Although Liverpool agreed to the switch, FA officials refused to sanction it. "We do not allow clubs to switch ties on purely financial grounds," said the FA spokesman Steve Double.

"If we allow that sort of thing to happen it would make a nonsense of the draw. Ties are only moved if there is some sort of problem relating to either safety or security."

Shrewsbury's secretary Malcolm Starkey said: "Many, many thousands of supporters will be disappointed. Had we played at Anfield I think we could have sold around 10,000 tickets."

Results

SCOTTISH LEAGUE Second Division East Fife (H) 0, 1943; Turriff 34, 0; Paterson 4, 0; 1943

FA CUP Third-round replays Stockport County 2, Everton 3

Manchester City 5, Leicester City 0

Wolverhampton Wanderers 2, Birmingham City 1

Wimbledon (H) 1, Watford (A) 0

Wolverhampton (H) 2, Birmingham (A) 1

Wolverhampton (H) 2, Birmingham (A) 1

Wolverhampton (H) 2, Birmingham (A) 1

Wolverhampton (H) 2, Birmingham (A) 1

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Arabic text at the bottom right: 'سكان الاجل'



1996/1/18

Cricket

England hapless and hopeless to the end

Mike Selvey in Durban

FIVE matches gone and still two to go, but for England this one-day series has long since produced the effect of sustained mallet blows to the head. The throbbing got worse at Kingsmead yesterday as a five-wicket defeat gave South Africa an unbeatable 4-1 lead, rendering academic the final matches of the tour at East London and Port Elizabeth. The Australians, bless them, would pull the plug and call it a day.

It was a defeat achieved at a price, moreover, for Alec Stewart, fingers already as brittle as toffee crisp, retired from the field needing stitches, having split the webbing of his left hand in missing a bullet catch at mid-wicket from Jacques Kallis.

"Salah!" Kallis ("there's not much there", supposedly), having already pointed the first half-century of his infant international career, went on to make a cultured 67 from

107 balls before hauling Phil DeFreitas high to mid-wicket where Graeme Hick made an awkward catch appear a sneeze.

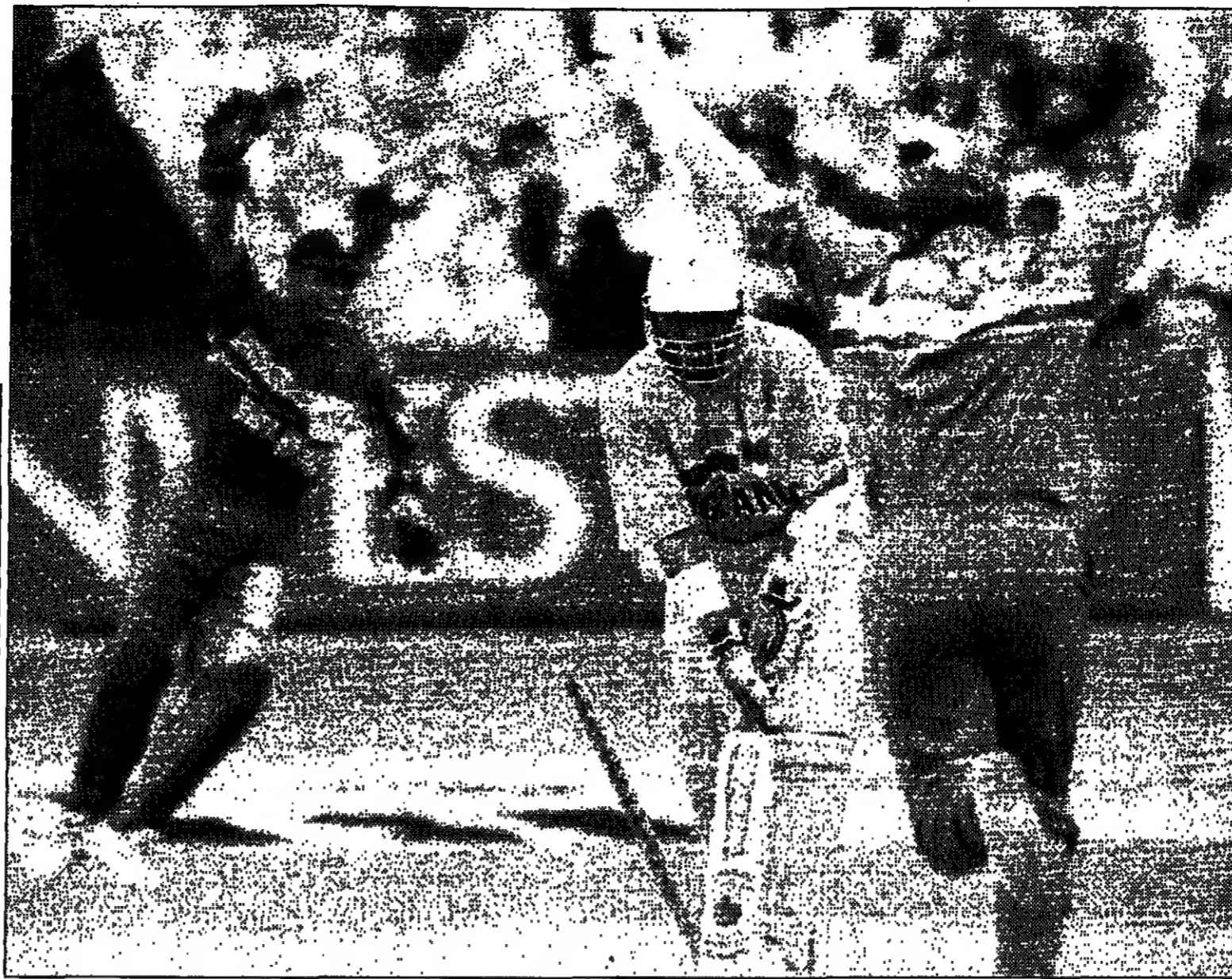
It was a welcome breakthrough, with the young chunderbat driving succulently at times. The damage had already been done, however, for he and the South Africa captain Hansie Cronje had resurrected the innings from a disastrous start.

Chasing 135 to win — England having been bowled out with a ball to spare — the pair added 118 in 33 overs for the third wicket after Dominic Cork, making the new ball wobble like a gelatine belly-dancer, had retrieved the wicket. Gary Kirsten — agriculturally and Andrew Hudson — fortuitously — in his first two overs with only nine on the board.

But although they were behind the asking rate for much of the innings, South Africa had wickets in hand and Cronje was not about to let go. First with Brian McMillan, until he likewise was taken at deep mid-wicket, and then with Rhodes (12 not out), Cronje steered his side to within two runs of the post before chopping on to his stumps having made 78 from 133 balls. Shaun Pollock finished the job with 10 balls to spare.

Cronje had been an accomplished innings, containing four fours and a six clumped back over DeFreitas's astonished head when victory was imminent. But it was only a consolation. Three times in five overs — before he had made 30 — he might have gone. First Cork fingertipped a fierce off-drive, then Mike Atherton, backed-peddling furiously at long-off, failed to cling on to a snowy sloop, and finally DeFreitas dished a simple chance at backward point.

For the third time in his four matches, England were indebted to Graham Thorpe for their score: in Cape Town his 62 had lent a poor effort a measure of respectability; at Bloemfontein his beautifully



Bowled over... the wicketkeeper Richardson and Donald celebrate the fast bowler's dismissal of Stewart in Durban

PHOTOGRAPH: MIKE HUTCHINGS

Table with 2 columns: Player Name and Score. Includes names like A J Stewart, R A Smith, G P Thorpe, etc.

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timed 72 had seen the side home in a chase when they looked like filtering. Only in Sunday's better at Centurion had he failed.

Yesterday Atherton and Stewart gave the side their third decent start of the series, only for the innings to be marred by the man of the Match Allan Donald.

Donald's role is to provide the sabbath thrust after the new-ball skirmishing, and, starting with the first ball of his second over, he removed Atherton and Stewart for 17 and 31 respectively, and then Hick and Smith cheaply for good measure. The wickets, in the space of 28 deliveries, had cost only 19 runs and in a trice 61 without loss had become 78 for four and England were clawing desperately, never truly to recover.

Craig White (18, with whom he added 54 for the fifth wicket — the highest stand of the innings — before the all-rounder's dreadful hit across the line resulted in Pollock uprooting his off stump, and Jack Russell. The wicket-keeper made 21 before Pollock's kick on to the stumps ran him out as he attempted a quick single at the behest of the striker, DeFreitas.

By this time Thorpe had gone, having made 68 from 74 balls with only four boundaries, scrapping and scavenging for every run. Invention was his downfall as he tried to accelerate. Having flicked Craig Matthews from around off stump to the fine-line boundary, he got the taste, stepped outside the line once again and lost his leg stump. The last five wickets fell for 20 runs.

Australians to have 24-hour armed guard at World Cup

AUSTRALIA'S players will be protected by armed guards for 24 hours a day during the World Cup on the Indian subcontinent next month. They will also be given extra security at grounds and airports.

Some of them have received threatening letters and they are fearful of retribution after controversies involving Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Graham Halbish, the Australian Cricket Board chief executive, said of the letters: "Some of the

stuff has been quite frightening." Australia's recent home Test series against Pakistan was overshadowed by their players' earlier bribery allegations against Salim Malik, the former captain of the visitors.

Australia's current series against Sri Lanka was disrupted when the tourists were found guilty and then cleared of half-tampering during last month's first Test. And the Sri Lanka off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was no-balled for throwing by Australian umpires in two subsequent tour matches.

Singapore will host a triangular tournament between India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka in April, shortly after the three countries have staged the World Cup.

In Hamilton, a bold attempt by New Zealand's captain Lee Germon to breathe life into the first Test failed when Zimbabwe's batsmen finished 49 runs short of victory with four wickets in hand yesterday.

The match was drawn after Germon had declared his side's second innings at 223 for five, setting Zimbabwe a winning target of 257 in two sessions.

Both teams had a chance to win the match in the final session. Zimbabwe had gone into tea at 113 for two but were reduced to 177 for six. Worcestershire have reported a pre-tax profit of £141,107 for 1995 — the 13th successive year that they have enjoyed a surplus. It comfortably beats the 1994 profit of £53,826.

Rugby League

Hughes out at Saints

Paul Fitzpatrick

ONLY four days after being sacked by Wigan in a marvellous Regal Trophy final at Huddersfield, St Helens have "parted company" with their coach Eric Hughes.

The players were said to be "shell-shocked" at his departure and Hughes, who had been in the post since January 1994, was reported to be taking legal advice.

His contract was due to run to the end of May but there had been mounting speculation that his job was under threat, with Sean McRae, an assistant coach at Canberra Raiders, touted as his possible successor.

David Howes, Saints' chief executive, said the timing of Hughes's departure was "most unfortunate" but had been due in part to the talk in the newspapers and elsewhere. He would not say whether Hughes had been dismissed or had resigned.

Howes said the club hoped a new coach would be designated in time for the Saturday week's Challenge Cup fourth-round match at Castleford. McRae would seem to be in pole position but John Monie, formerly coach at Wigan and now at Auckland Warriors, is also being linked with the vacancy.

Monie was brilliantly successful in his four seasons at Central Park, leading Wigan to four Challenge Cup successes. It would be the greatest irony if he were to move in at Knowl Road.

John Dorahy, another former Wigan coach, Clive Griffiths, now hoping to succeed Brian Johnson at Warrington, and Phil Larder, the Keighley and England coach, might all be candidates for one of the game's most important posts. But with the dazzling success of Wigan only a few miles down the road it is something of a poisoned chalice, as Hughes has found. His forte has been to bring into the first team many of the players that were under his control when he was in charge of the Academy side. One supporter taking his seat for last night's match against London Broncos said he was "appalled and disgusted" at the news. Saints may take stronger criticism than that in coming days.

The St Helens centre Scott Gibbs faces a League disciplinary hearing in Leeds today after his dismissal for alleged use of the elbow late in Saturday's Regal Trophy final against Wigan. The Leeds prop Harvey Howard, sent off in midweek against Oldham, is also up before the committee.

Wigan to play at Twickers

THE Berin Wall fell years ago but only last night did Wigan start preparations to breach the toughest rampart in British sport when they agreed to play rugby union at Twickenham — for nothing.

The newly recognised champions pronounced themselves "honoured" to accept the Rugby League's invitation to take up the RFU's offer of a place at this year's Middlesex Sevens on Saturday May 11.

The club will receive only the usual Middlesex Sevens appearance fee of £20,000 to donate to a nominated charity, probably local schools.

Wigan are former winners of rugby league's World Sevens title and their chairman Jack Robinson was hopeful of more similarly last night. "We like winning and we are not going to send a team that we don't think will win."

"Rugby union sevens is different from rugby league sevens; our sevens are played at 100 miles per hour, they play it about 65 miles per hour with fast bursts."

"We want to try and have a go."

Rugby Union

Richards stays in the picture

Robert Armstrong

DEAN RICHARDS, England's talisman and France's bete noire, will replace the injured Tim Rodber on the bench for Saturday's Five Nations opener at the Parc des Princes. The 28-year-old No. 8 will provide positional cover for Bath's Ben Clarke, who was passed fit for yesterday's training session at Roehampton despite suffering spasms of the abdominal and pelvic muscles in the past week.

Rodber withdrew before the squad session started, having decided his knee and ankle damage would give him no chance of playing an effective part in the England pack.

Richards, who was called into the squad at Blenheim Abbey last weekend, can offer the management extra options should either Steve Ojomoh or Lawrence Dallaglio be injured, because Clarke has the capacity to change to a pack side where he played in the World Cup.

If Richards gets into the action it will be his 46th international appearance in a 10-year Test career. The fitness of Clarke, who continued to feel some discomfort yesterday, leaves the door open for the Leicester captain, whose presence on the bench in any case is certain to keep the French looking over their shoulders.

Nevertheless the England manager Jack Rowell acknowledged that Clarke's consistent form this season made him an indispensable member of the England team. "Ben has been developing as a pack leader," Rowell said. "He has an uplifting effect on the whole squad."

This afternoon the England party flies to Paris from Heathrow after a training session at Roehampton, which

will give the players their final chance to refine their tactics behind closed doors.

Rowell believes the French will "drive through the forwards, attack through the backs, and kick for position", a strategy which would place a high premium on their fly-half Thierry Lecoeur's ability to roll the ball into the corners.

"We will aim at fencing the French in, keep them contained in their own half, and play our own game. France appear to have a well-balanced team with two outstanding young centres, and despite their heavy defeat by New Zealand in Paris they believe they're on a launching pad to do well. They see the opening game as a chance to go on any win the Five Nations Championship."

"The new caps in the England team have now been accepted by the more experienced players and we have taken on board the fact that we made too many head-butting mistakes in our two matches before Christmas."

"We need more of our players to accept responsibility; anyone with a number of caps, Leonard Bayfield, Johnson for instance, could do a lot to bring out the best in the side."

Across the Channel Jean-Claude Skrela, the France coach, promised to emulate the European champions Toulouse with an exhibition of rumbung rugby.

The club's former flanker said: "Toulouse showed you can impose your own game by playing total rugby. It's up to us to follow their example."

Ireland's Neil Francis was passed fit yesterday for their game against Scotland on Saturday. The lock had been laid low with a chest infection.

Eric Blaxland and Simon Geoghegan have recovered from minor injuries.

A major pay-day each season. The Japanese electronics company has an option on the game for a further two years.

Leicester may also agree a one-off television deal for the game, which celebrates the 125th anniversary of the Rugby Football Union.

Many returns on the flying Scott

SCOTT HASTINGS reports his weekend knee injury "no more than a wee bruise" and he will wear his 58th cap for Scotland in Dublin on Saturday. He needs only four more to overtake his illustrious older brother Gavin's record of 61.

Gavin retired at the end of Scotland's bonny quarter-final defeat by New Zealand in the World Cup — with Scott scoring the final Scottish try by way of fraternal hail and farewell.

Scott admits it will be strange on Saturday lining up with the blueshirts without Gavin's exhortations behind him — although the fellow has by no means faded away, as last night's This Is Your Life testified.

Centre three-quarters come in all shapes and sizes, swaggers and strut. Though international rugby's box of chocs allows no remotely soft centres any more, the perception still divides the breed between the silky-stepping Fancy Dans with delicate natures and also the copper-bottomed barndoor bristling with Desperate Dan chins and defiance. Centres can be either Guscotts or Gravelles.

Scotland's strapping Scott inclines to the latter. He is a solid four-square outside centre who tackles with a thrilling and meaningful resonance. Bob Dwyer, the coach, and the rest of Australia all agreed that the Lions would not have won the 1989 series

without, in the second and third Tests, the tackling of Hastings. What an open-sided flanker he would have made, especially in his zippy youth. Or a counter-attacking full-back even, had not his brother begged that jersey.

In fact, although Gavin is almost three years the older, they won their first caps on the same day — against France exactly 10 years ago today. John Rutherford, prince of fly-halves, recalls that day like yesterday: "Us senior caps were prowling the dressing room like nervous kittens, and those two kids were joking and jiggling about with a ball and not a care in the world."

The engaging Scott still palpably adores his game with that schoolboy's relish. He is a senior account executive now with an Edinburgh advertising agency, Barkers, but even from that exalted hive of hyperbole he scots with a dismissive chirp when you say his tumultuous match-saving tackle on Rory Underwood in the 1990 Grand Slam epic at Murrayfield was arguably the most important single tackle in the history of Scottish rugby.

"Nonsense, man. That means you never saw my best-ever tackle. It was in the primary sevens. I was 10 and playing for George Watson's College."

"The week before I'd seen a flying tackle on television. 'Eiy, I can try that,' I said. And sure enough this equally



Scott Hastings... 58th cap

Frank Keating gets to grips with Scotland's engaging and solid centre

wee laddie from Morrison's Academy sprints away. I have after him and cut him down with an absolute peach of a perfect thing. My very first tackle, and still my very best. I was so proud of myself."

C'mon, what about Underwood? That one is scarred in the memory of every single soul in that throng. Scotland were gloriously ahead, but hanging on by fingernails as the pukka over-proud English swarmed at them from every point. Of a sudden, Underwood from no-

where sprang fulminantly on to a dummy ball through the middle. He seemed clear when Scott, having boogied the dummy, checked in a blink like a cartoon cat, turned, recovered, and leaped back and across with truly valiant athleticism and splendour to scythe down the awful danger at its knees. It really was a moment deserving of historians' research.

"I remember every single one of my Underwood tackles," Scott says with the widest of grins. "Let me just read from my little black book." And he reaches inside his jacket pocket. "We got every one logged and listed here, most framed in gold-leaf paints. Well, he's a hell of a player, that Rory."

Sure, but be serious, you must remember that tackle of that stupendous tactics!"

"Of course I do. But I think you historians crack on about it too much, to be honest. I got Rory and stopped him, okay, but see it again and you'll see what I knew instinctively: that one is scarred in the memory of every single soul in that throng. Scotland were gloriously ahead, but hanging on by fingernails as the pukka over-proud English swarmed at them from every point. Of a sudden, Underwood from no-

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Talking of which, concentrate your mind because the old and close encounter of fra-

Athletics

Hylton among embarrassment of riches

Stephen Barley

MARK HYLTON and Guy Bullock, two of Britain's most talented young athletes, team up in the 400 metres against Russia in Birmingham on Saturday week in the first major domestic indoor meeting of the season.

Both have been outstanding juniors. Bullock won the European junior title in San Sebastian in 1993 and Hylton emulated that achievement last year in Hungary.

The competition for the three Olympic 400m places this summer promises to be the fiercest of any event. Hyl-

ton and Bullock will be up against Mark Richardson, Roger Black, Du'aine Ladega and Dave Grindley, with another talented youngster, Jamie Baugh, making up a magnificent seven.

Neil Cadby, who gained a noteworthy victory in a cross-country race over the frozen wastes of Durham last month, is given an early chance to impress on the track, having been selected for the 3,000m Cadby, aged 20, improved his 1,500m time by seven seconds to 3min 59sec last year and may have an outside chance of reaching Atlanta.

In the women's shot July Oakes, aged 37, makes a re-

cord 73rd appearance, overtaking Verona Elder, who is now the British women's team manager.

OSWALD MURRAY (by Russia, WA, Jan 27): 200m: 27.8; 400m: 1.00.50; 800m: 2:00.5; 1,500m: 4:30.0; 2,000m: 6:00.0; 3,000m: 8:30.0; 4,000m: 11:00.0; 5,000m: 14:00.0; 6,000m: 17:00.0; 7,000m: 20:00.0; 8,000m: 23:00.0; 9,000m: 26:00.0; 10,000m: 29:00.0; 11,000m: 32:00.0; 12,000m: 35:00.0; 13,000m: 38:00.0; 14,000m: 41:00.0; 15,000m: 44:00.0; 16,000m: 47:00.0; 17,000m: 50:00.0; 18,000m: 53:00.0; 19,000m: 56:00.0; 20,000m: 59:00.0; 21,000m: 62:00.0; 22,000m: 65:00.0; 23,000m: 68:00.0; 24,000m: 71:00.0; 25,000m: 74:00.0; 26,000m: 77:00.0; 27,000m: 80:00.0; 28,000m: 83:00.0; 29,000m: 86:00.0; 30,000m: 89:00.0; 31,000m: 92:00.0; 32,000m: 95:00.0; 33,000m: 98:00.0; 34,000m: 101:00.0; 35,000m: 104:00.0; 36,000m: 107:00.0; 37,000m: 110:00.0; 38,000m: 113:00.0; 39,000m: 116:00.0; 40,000m: 119:00.0; 41,000m: 122:00.0; 42,000m: 125:00.0; 43,000m: 128:00.0; 44,000m: 131:00.0; 45,000m: 134:00.0; 46,000m: 137:00.0; 47,000m: 140:00.0; 48,000m: 143:00.0; 49,000m: 146:00.0; 50,000m: 149:00.0; 51,000m: 152:00.0; 52,000m: 155:00.0; 53,000m: 158:00.0; 54,000m: 161:00.0; 55,000m: 164:00.0; 56,000m: 167:00.0; 57,000m: 170:00.0; 58,000m: 173:00.0; 59,000m: 176:00.0; 60,000m: 179:00.0; 61,000m: 182:00.0; 62,000m: 185:00.0; 63,000m: 188:00.0; 64,000m: 191:00.0; 65,000m: 194:00.0; 66,000m: 197:00.0; 67,000m: 200:00.0; 68,000m: 203:00.0; 69,000m: 206:00.0; 70,000m: 209:00.0; 71,000m: 212:00.0; 72,000m: 215:00.0; 73,000m: 218:00.0; 74,000m: 221:00.0; 75,000m: 224:00.0; 76,000m: 227:00.0; 77,000m: 230:00.0; 78,000m: 233:00.0; 79,000m: 236:00.0; 80,000m: 239:00.0; 81,000m: 242:00.0; 82,000m: 245:00.0; 83,000m: 248:00.0; 84,000m: 251:00.0; 85,000m: 254:00.0; 86,000m: 257:00.0; 87,000m: 260:00.0; 88,000m: 263:00.0; 89,000m: 266:00.0; 90,000m: 269:00.0; 91,000m: 272:00.0; 92,000m: 275:00.0; 93,000m: 278:00.0; 94,000m: 281:00.0; 95,000m: 284:00.0; 96,000m: 287:00.0; 97,000m: 290:00.0; 98,000m: 293:00.0; 99,000m: 296:00.0; 100,000m: 299:00.0; 101,000m: 302:00.0; 102,000m: 305:00.0; 103,000m: 308:00.0; 104,000m: 311:00.0; 105,000m: 314:00.0; 106,000m: 317:00.0; 107,000m: 320:00.0; 108,000m: 323:00.0; 109,000m: 326:00.0; 110,000m: 329:00.0; 111,000m: 332:00.0; 112,000m: 335:00.0; 113,000m: 338:00.0; 114,000m: 341:00.0; 115,000m: 344:00.0; 116,000m: 347:00.0; 117,000m: 350:00.0; 118,000m: 353:00.0; 119,000m: 356:00.0; 120,000m: 359:00.0; 121,000m: 362:00.0; 122,000m: 365:00.0; 123,000m: 368:00.0; 124,000m: 371:00.0; 125,000m: 374:00.0; 126,000m: 377:00.0; 127,000m: 380:00.0; 128,000m: 383:00.0; 129,000m: 386:00.0; 130,000m: 389:00.0; 131,000m: 392:00.0; 132,000m: 395:00.0; 133,000m: 398:00.0; 134,000m: 401:00.0; 135,000m: 404:00.0; 136,000m: 407:00.0; 137,000m: 410:00.0; 138,000m: 413:00.0; 139,000m: 416:00.0; 140,000m: 419:00.0; 141,000m: 422:00.0; 142,000m: 425:00.0; 143,000m: 428:00.0; 144,000m: 431:00.0; 145,000m: 434:00.0; 146,000m: 437:00.0; 147,000m: 440:00.0; 148,000m: 443:00.0; 149,000m: 446:00.0; 150,000m: 449:00.0; 151,000m: 452:00.0; 152,000m: 455:00.0; 153,000m: 458:00.0; 154,000m: 461:00.0; 155,000m: 464:00.0; 156,000m: 467:00.0; 157,000m: 470:00.0; 158,000m: 473:00.0; 159,000m: 476:00.0; 160,000m: 479:00.0; 161,000m: 482:00.0; 162,000m: 485:00.0; 163,000m: 488:00.0; 164,000m: 491:00.0; 165,000m: 494:00.0; 166,000m: 497:00.0; 167,000m: 500:00.0; 168,000m: 503:00.0; 169,000m: 506:00.0; 170,000m: 509:00.0; 171,000m: 512:00.0; 172,000m: 515:00.0; 173,000m: 518:00.0; 174,000m: 521:00.0; 175,000m: 524:00.0; 176,000m: 527:00.0; 177,000m: 530:00.0; 178,000m: 533:00.0; 179,000m: 536:00.0; 180,000m: 539:00.0; 181,000m: 542:00.0; 182,000m: 545:00.0; 183,000m: 548:00.0; 184,000m: 551:00.0; 185,000m: 554:00.0; 186,000m: 557:00.0; 187,000m: 560:00.0; 188,000m: 563:00.0; 189,000m: 566:00.0; 190,000m: 569:00.0; 191,000m: 572:00.0; 192,000m: 575:00.0; 193,000m: 578:00.0; 194,000m: 581:00.0; 195,000m: 584:00.0; 196,000m: 587:00.0; 197,000m: 590:00.0; 198,000m: 593:00.0; 199,000m: 596:00.0; 200,000m: 599:00.0; 201,000m: 602:00.0; 202,000m: 605:00.0; 203,000m: 608:00.0; 204,000m: 611:00.0; 205,000m: 614:00.0; 206,000m: 617:00.0; 207,000m: 620:00.0; 208,000m: 623:00.0; 209,000m: 626:00.0; 210,000m: 629:00.0; 211,000m: 632:00.0; 212,000m: 635:00.0; 213,000m: 638:00.0; 214,000m: 641:00.0; 215,000m: 644:00.0; 216,000m: 647:00.0; 217,000m: 650:00.0; 218,000m: 653:00.0; 219,000m: 656:00.0; 220,000m: 659:00.0; 221,000m: 662:00.0; 222,000m: 665:00.0; 223,000m: 668:00.0; 224,000m: 671:00.0; 225,000m: 674:00.0; 226,000m: 677:00.0; 227,000m: 680:00.0; 228,



# SportsGuardian

## FA CUP THIRD-ROUND REPLAY

Newcastle United 2, Chelsea 2 (after 90 minutes)

# Last-gasp Gullit hits 10-man Newcastle

David Lacey

**N**EWCASTLE United's early progress in the FA Cup began to look as inexorable as their surge towards the Premier League championship in last night's replay. But Round Gullit's 88th-minute equaliser took the tie into extra-time.

Earlier, Newcastle needed just two minutes to regain the lead, through the game's second penalty, after Chelsea had drawn level with the first, following the dismissal of Darren Peacock for the foul which had led to it. It was Newcastle's second red card in three games.

But for a misplaced goal-kick by Kharine in stoppage time at Stamford Bridge, astutely exploited by Albert and Ferdinand, Chelsea would have been contemplating a fourth-round tie at QPR instead of facing a Newcastle side that had won 12 times in succession at St James' Park.

Chelsea, moreover, had already lost at Newcastle this season, beaten by two goals from Ferdinand in September. Yet Kevin Keegan's players knew they had to do more than just turn up.

Certainly Chelsea's start was impressive last night, full of composed passing and relaxed movement. Gullit, Wise and Petrescu were immediate influences. Within three minutes Peacock had to move quickly to stop Petrescu and Wise threatening.

Chelsea had Hitchcock in goal rather than Kharine, but he looked none too secure early on, coming out to meet Ferdinand only to grab thin

air as he tried to snatch the ball from the forward's feet. Fortunately for Chelsea, Ferdinand lost his footing.

This moment apart, Chelsea looked the more compact as they continued to attack quickly on the break, with Gullit's searching passes opening up the wings for Phelan's pace and Petrescu's wit. Meanwhile Duberry resumed his watch on Ferdinand.

Not to the extent of cramping Ferdinand for space outside the penalty area, however. Ferdinand had plenty of room when Gullit's header found him some 50 yards from goal, but the shot was wild.

For all that Newcastle carried the greater fire-power — a point well illustrated in the 21st minute. First Petrescu, sent through by Wise and looking outside, caused Srnicek no great problems with a cross-shot. Then Ferdinand, again set up by Gullit, unleashed an emphatic shot which hit a post.

The contrast was evident again approaching the half-hour when Phelan ran at the Newcastle defence and Wise and Gullit took the movement on, only for Spencer to find insufficient power to defeat Srnicek. In the next instant a glorious ball from Gullit found Hughes in space between Peacock and Albert. But Hughes could not find the space to shoot.

Beardsley played relatively deep for Newcastle last night but his influence was no less profound. Only a tenuous tackle by Myers prevented Beardsley's pass sending Ferdinand between himself and Duberry and the moment soon proved portentous.

Three minutes before half-time Ferdinand, now bursting square across the penalty arc, was caught late by Lee. A caution followed. Albert drove the free-kick low towards goal and a generous deflection off the wall left Hitchcock helpless.

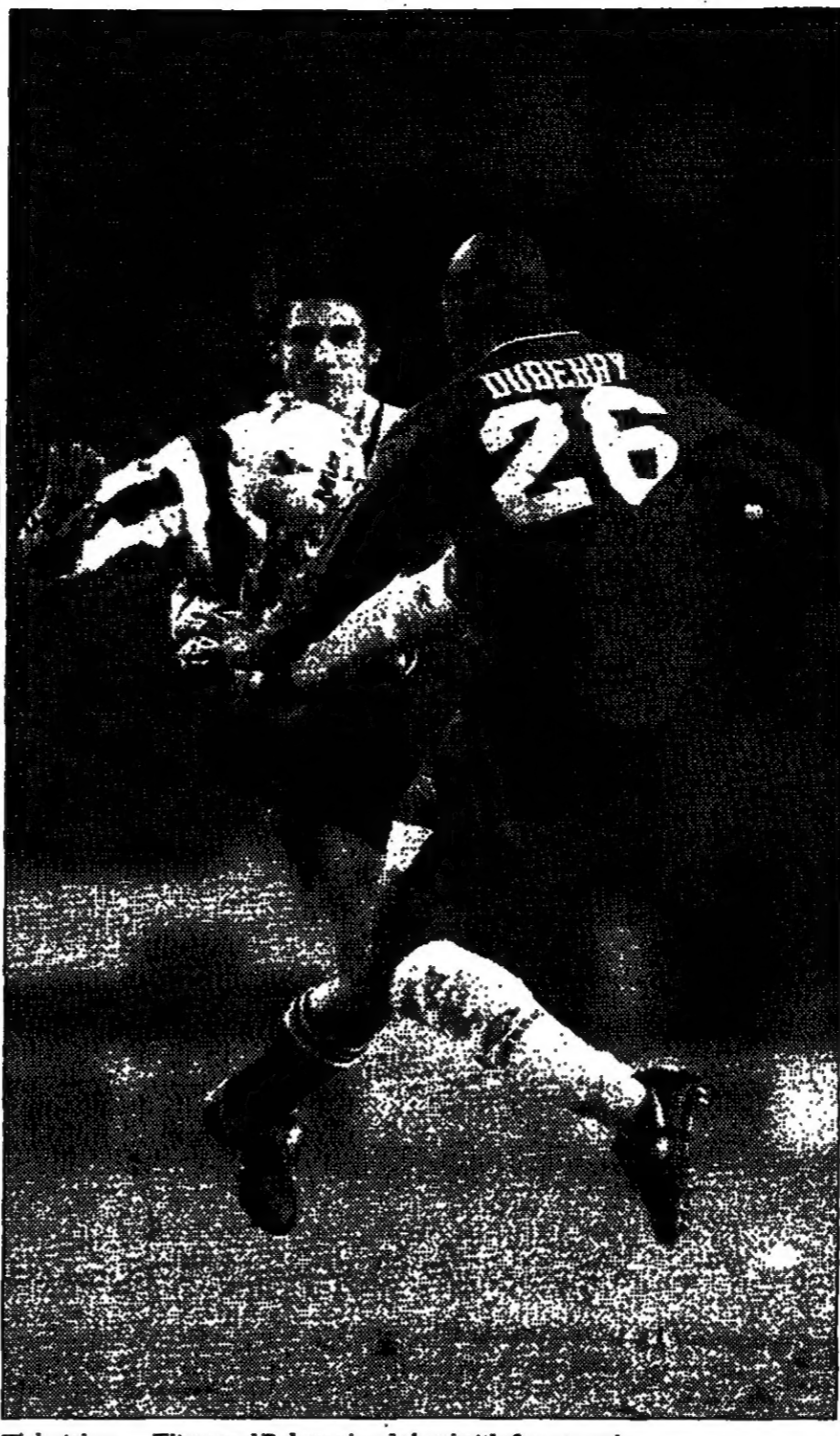
Chelsea had had slightly the better of the first half territorially yet Newcastle's goal still had an air of inevitability about it. So did the way they began the second half, with Myers lucky to stay on the field after bringing down Ferdinand, this time when he was about to break for goal.

The thought clearly preyed on Myers's mind as Ferdinand released Kitson just over a minute later. As the Chelsea defender tried to jockey the Newcastle striker out of a scoring position, Kitson unleashed a shot which Hitchcock just managed to touch over.

On the hour Chelsea came back into the tie — briefly as it transpired. Spencer, sprinting into the area, was tripped by Peacock, who had already been cautioned for dissent and was now sent off. Wise's penalty brought the scores level, and Chelsea rejoiced for all of two minutes.

Then, Gullit lobbed the ball into the goalmouth from the left-hand byline, Lee was adjudged to have pushed Kitson over from behind, and Beardsley restored Newcastle's lead with another penalty.

**Newcastle United:** Srnicek, Barton, Peacock, Albert, Beardsley, Watson, Beardsley, Gullit, Phelan, Kitson, Ferdinand.  
**Chelsea:** Hitchcock, Duberry, Lee, Myers, Petrescu, Newton, Gullit, Wise, Phelan, Spencer, Hughes.  
**Referee:** S Lodge (Barnsley).



High stakes... Kitson and Duberry juggle in a battle for possession

MICHAEL STEELE

# Americans don't give a XXX who wins



Ian Katz

**I**T WILL not be played for a week but the headline writers have already declared Super Bowl XXX a classic. The Dallas Cowboys versus the Pittsburgh Steelers, the Team of the Nineties versus the Team of the Seventies, the Big Three from Big D against the Wall of Steel: a replay of the great Super Bowl clashes of 1976 and 1979. At last a real contender from the long-outgunned AFC.

The trouble is, no one actually thinks that. What most Americans really think is: the Most Obnoxious team in football versus the Most Boring; flash, money and arrogance versus the winners of the effort prize: Cowboys to win by 12 points. In short, Super Bowl XXX will be, as usual, the Super Bowl.

That the Cowboys are often described as America's Team is one of the great sporting ironies. It is true that they sell more merchandise than any other side — about a quarter of all NFL goods. It is also true that the Big Three of the quarterback Troy Aikman, running back Emmitt Smith and wide receiver Michael Irvin comprise the most formidable strike force in American football, perhaps one of the best ever. But I have yet to meet an American outside the Longhorn state who doesn't hate the big-mouthed 'Boys.

Much of Dallas's image problem is owed to the team's brash owner Jerry Jones, who symbolises American sport's complete submission to lucre. But there is something repellent even about the great Irvin, who dances a little too long after scoring a touchdown, and about Aikman, who behaved as though he had survived an assassination attempt when a female admirer bounded on to the field during practice.

**H**OWEVER thoroughly the Cowboys thrash the Steelers, there are plenty of us who will fondly remember their two delicious defeats by the mediocre Washington Redskins this season, the ignominy at Philadelphia, the scrape past the appalling New York Giants, and best of all the home drubbing at the hands of a San Francisco without their starting quarterback. Along with most Americans

I shall be rooting for the hard men of blue-collar Pittsburgh, but with precious little enthusiasm. Despite acquiring attractive players such as the wide receiver Yancey Thigpen and the endlessly versatile Kordell Stewart, the Steelers still pride themselves at doing the ugly things: blitting opposing quarterbacks, closing down sparking offensive teams, smashing through defensive lines with their pudgy running back Bam Morris.

The Steelers' bearded quarterback Neil O'Donnell even looks boring. His watchword is "patience" and his most notable achievement, throwing the lowest number of interceptions of any quarterback this season, says more about the risible number of passes he threw than their accuracy. He didn't throw an interception in Sunday's battle with the Indianapolis Colts, but no one will remember his 25-of-41 passing record for the game.

There is a school of thought that the Steelers may be just the team to beat Dallas, champions in 1988 and 1994; that they might bore Deion "Prime Time" Sanders and the Big Three into submission. But not even the just-lauded Pittsburgh coach Bill Cowher seems convinced. "The Steelers are going to show up and we're going to play hard for 60 minutes," he declared.

**T**HE tragedy of last Sunday's AFC and NFC championship games was that they offered a glimmer of hope. Green Bay and Indianapolis were two of the most attractive underdogs to reach the last four in recent years: the Packers, a once great team with a dreamy quarterback and fans so obsessive that they wear giant wedges of cheese on their heads; the Colts, scrappy, unloved and so improbable that even their quarterback Jim Harbaugh referred to them as a bunch of "ragamuffins".

## England crash in one-day series

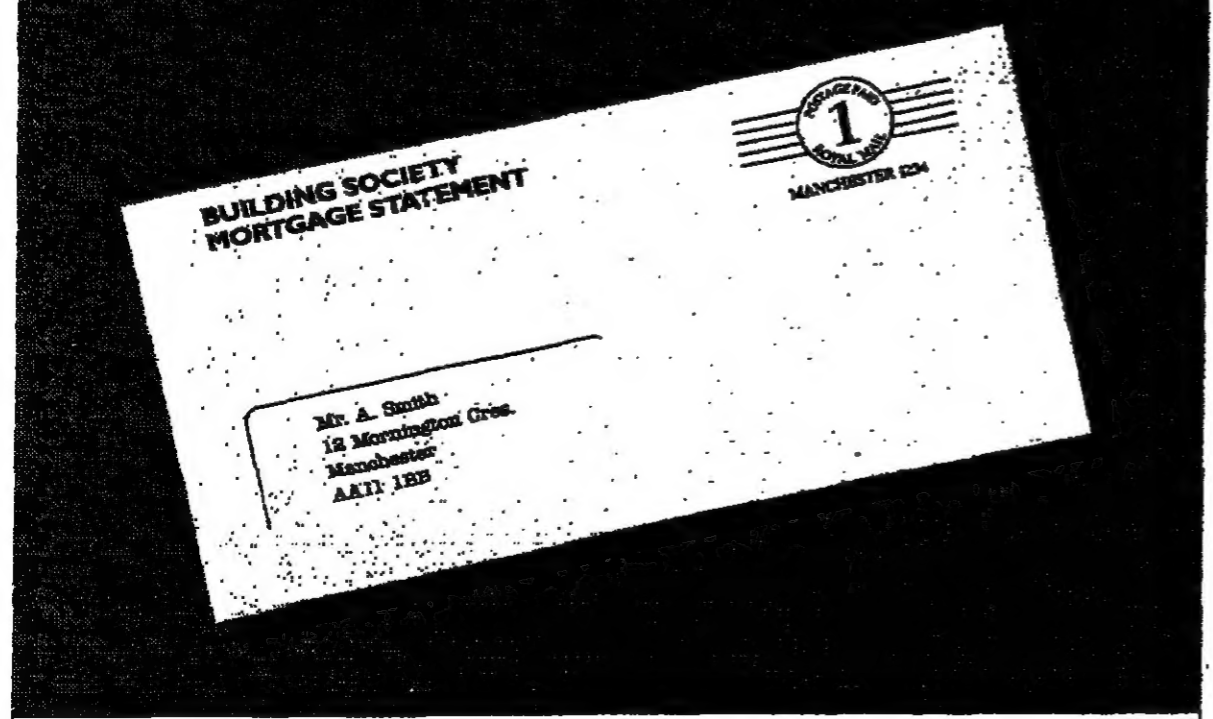
**E**NGLAND lost the one-day international in Durban yesterday, giving South Africa an unassailable 4-1 lead in the series with two games still to play.

To compound the tourists' misery their vice-captain Alec Stewart will miss the rest of the series after suffering a hand injury in the five-wicket defeat. Stewart, who has been plagued recently by injuries to his fingers, split the webbing between two of them when attempting to catch Jacques Kallis's lofted drive.

"It's a clean cut but I should be available for the World Cup if selected," he said. "I only picked it up two or three yards short but that's no excuse: the ball was in the air and should have been caught. Stewart's miss was one of several as South Africa coasted to their series win, which follows their 1-0 victory in the Test series."

Nike Selvey, page 15

# Here's one statement that doesn't tell the whole story.



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## Guardian Crossword No 20,552

Set by Rufus

**Across**  
1 Naughty ladies men dream of (6)  
5 Treat raw spillage seen in the river (5,3)  
9,6 down Use a paperweight and save money? (4,4,3,5)  
10 Sallies follow a direction to arms (6)  
11 An incoming charge (9,3)  
13 Bail out in the Indian Ocean (4)  
14 Translated oriental tale (8)  
17 He wrote comedies many never go out to sea (8)  
18 As far as one is able (2,2)  
20 Old maid? (7-5)  
23 Start breeding a bird dog (6)  
24 Forgave and cut the fellow in (8)  
25 He values a vessel with an arrangement of roses (8)

**Down**  
2 Exploit that should be witnessed (4)  
3 Attractive method of preventing injustice? (9)  
4 Furnes capable of causing a lot of damage (6)  
5 It's swinging in the rain (10,5)  
6 see 9 across  
7 French city one gets confused with Ur (5)  
8 Quite enough out of school (10)  
12 Glasses or beer-mats need changing (10)  
15 Try to land (5,4)  
16 Ill-temper shown by a girl in a muddle (8)  
19 Green party finally contrived to get power (8)

**21** Unsure how to combat the shivers (5)  
**22** Yield what is sown, say (4)

**Solution tomorrow**

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